HOW BARE DO YOU DARE?

Grace Bradberry on what to show at the office party PAGE 14



GURU **POWER** Simon Jenkins

on God's gift to cynicism PAGE 16



FISH OUT OF WATER

The sex-change flounders PAGE 9



TOKEN 4, PAGE 30



War declared on 'cheating' Tories

BY PHILIP WESSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

Labour and LibDems end parliamentary co-operation after Government 'rigs' fishing vote

LABOUR and the Liberal Democrats have refused to cothe Government Amid unoperate with the Government in all future Commons divisions after accusing it of cheating in Monday's fishing vote.
The spectre of ministers

regularly being dragged back to Westminster from overseas visits and sick MPs being wheeled in for crucial votes throughout the final months of the present parliament faced ministers after the opposition parties announced they were ending "pairing" deals with

precedented accusations of breaching the faith and trust on which the running of Parliament depends, it emerged that the Conservatives had "paired" three of their MPs in Monday's vote with three Labour MPs and three Liberal Democrat MPs. Three Tories had simply "taken out" six Opposition

The result of the "double counting" was that the Government's majority of 11

should have been eight. What compounded the outrage of Donald Dewar, the Labour Chief Whip, and Archy Kirk-wood, his Liberal counterpart, was that if the nine Ulster Unionists had voted against the Government rather than abstained it would have lost

And they emphasised at Westminster last night that when the two deals were done ministers had no way of knowing which way the Unionists would vote. The

Government therefore faced accusations from all sides that it had cheated to avoid being defeated. Its punishment will be a prolonged period of guerrilla warfare leading up to the election. Pairing is the longstanding

convenience at Westminster under which the Government matches one of its own MPs who needs to be absent with an Opposition MP in a similar situation. They then cancel each other out in the vote. The matter came to light

when the Labour and Liberal Democrat whips checked their figures. They had been unable to understand why the Government's majority was so comfortable, because all the other minority party MPs had turned up.

They were assonished to find that some of their MPs had been paired with the same

It was being suggested last night that the practice of double-counting may have

Wardell. On Friday afternoon but had not been discovered through lack of cross-check-Mr Conway and Mr Kirking. At the centre of the wood agreed that the Consercontroversy last night was vative Sir Keith Speed should Derek Conway, the Conservabe paired with Sir Russell tive pairing whip, who con-Johnston, Mr Sweeney with cluded separate deals with Paddy Ashdown, and Mr George Mudie, his Labour Dicks with David Alton. As the tension rose in the Commons on Monday afteropposite number, and Mr

Kirkwood. noon the Labour agreement Last Thursday he and Mr Mudie apparently agreed that the Tory MPs Terry Dicks and was completed when Mr Speed and Richard Shepherd Walter Sweeney should be were offered as pairs for the ill paired with the Labour MPs Martin Redmond and Jimmy Norman Godman and Gareth Dunnachie. Mr Dewar pro

duced a "smoking memo" — a handwrinen note from Mr Conway to Mr Mudie, dated Monday. It read: "George. Two further names as promised - K. Speed, R. Shepherd. 4/4. Yours Derek."

Several hours after the accur sarions were levelled there was no official government reaction last night.

Bin privately senior whips did not attempt to deny the deals. It was said that Labour and the Liberal Democrats were being "bad losers", and that if the Labour and Liberal Continued nn page 2, coi 4

Leading article, page 17

Saunders trial was unfair, Euro court says

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent, and Carol Midgley

TWO HUNDRED fraud prosecutions appeared to be at risk last night after the European Court of Human Rights ruled that the trial of, the former Guinness chief Ernest Saunders was unfair.

The court said that evidence Mr Saunders was forced to give during a City investigation should not have been used against him in his trial in 1990. By sixteen to four, the judges said that the use of the material amounted to "a remarkable departure from one of the basic principles of fair procedure".

But the court rejected his demands for £4.5 million compensation and reduced his claim for nearly, £340,000 in costs and expenses to £75,000.

The Government expressed dismay at the ruling and said that it was examining the court's decision to determine whether the law should be changed. The Serious Fraud Office said that it would resist all attempts to quash Mr Saunders's conviction or to award him compensation in

Department of Trade and Industry officials have identified some 200 pending cases in various stages of investigation where material has been similarly obtained, and which may now be at risk if it cannot be used to support a prosecution.

Mr Saunders, who was later involved in a clash with a television reporter over his apparent recovery from the irreversible Alzheimer's disease, said after the ruling:



Newsreader Jon Snow "Had these interviews not

been used, I would have been acquitted. I do feel myself to be an innocent man. This is just the tip of the iceberg in a totally unfair and politically managed process to which I have been subjected. I never considered giving up this battle. It was not about compensation, but the vindication of my good name."

He and his legal advisers

were "considering all options open to us legally and other-wise, including trying to have his conviction referred back to the Court of Appeal. Mr Saunders was jailed for five years in 1990 for his part in a share price-rigging racket

connected with the Guinness takeover of Distillers. But his sentence was halved on appeal and he served only ten months in an open prison until a doctor said that he appeared to have symptoms of incurable pre-senile dementia The doctor later admitted

that his diagnosis had been wrong and Mr Saunders, who has since put his illness down to stress, has gone on to carve out a lucrative career as a Yesterday his victory press

conference at St. James's Club, Piccadilly, descended into farce as his spokesman became involved in a slanging match with the Channel 4 newsreader Jon Snow, Mr Saunders, an imposing, suntanned figure of 6ft 2ins, looked bemused but stayed silent as George Devlin, a selfstyled human rights consultant, suggested that Mr Snow leave after he repeatedly asked Mr Saunders whether he considered himself a crook and about his apparent "recovery" from Alzheimer's disease

Mr Devlin, who has advised the former Guinness chairman for six years, insisted: "Mr Saunders is not a crook". The DTI investigation had been "real Star Chamber stuff" and extremely intimidatory, with interrogations in

windowless rooms. But he refused to let journalists address his client directly and intercepted virtually all questions to avoid, he said, prejudicing possible further legal action. When Mr Saunders was asked about his health and whether he had duped the taxpayer and the medical profession by feigning dementia, Mr Devlin said: "A doctor gave a diagnosis and that doctor has publicly stated that be was wrong on his diagnosis of his condition. If



Ernest Saunders, smiling but silent after his European court victory yesterday

have stood squarely in the way

un the angle of vision. Its

milled edge bears an inscrip-tion: "Standing on the Shoul-

ders of Giants", Newton's

words acknowledging his

Though the coin will be the

first £2 denomination to en-

ter general circulation, mil-

minted in six commemora-

tive designs since 1986, when

one commenmated that

year's Cummonwealth

"The commemorative coins

Games in Edinburgh.

ms of £2 coins have been

debt to other scientists.

you have any problems with that I suggest you take it up

But Mr Snow, whose 85year-old mother, Joan, suffers from Alzheimer's and lives in a nursing home, declared Mr Devlin a "fraudster" for calling a press conference and not allowing the subject to speak.

"This is absurd, it is a nonsense", Mr Snow said. "There he is, the only person in the world to have recovered from Alzheimer's and he is not even able to speak for himself." He

of perfectly decent question-

A pre-arranged interview with the BBC was also called off after Mr Saunders said he did not want to be asked any told Mr Deviin: "You are not a questions other than his reaction to the judgment. civil rights man, you are a denial of free speech man. You

Law may change, page 4

Manchester

loses out

to Wembley

WEMBLEY has been named

as the site for the new national

stadium and Manchester, its

main rival, has been given the

consolation prize of £60 mil-

lion towards the cost of a sta-

dium for the Commonwealth

The long-expected decision

to plump for the Venue of

Legends" ahead of the bid by

Manchester was confirmed by

United Kingdom Sports Coun-

cil chairman, Sir Rodney

Walker, in London yesterday.

for the World Cup, the Olym-

pic Games and the athletics

World Cup in the next century.

National Lottery funding will

provide almost half of the cost

of the £210-£230 million facelift for the most famous

sporting site in the country.

City moves afoot, page 41

Now it has the chance to bid

Games

Judge complains

A judge at Truro Crown Court complained that 46 forms had had to be filled in to satisfy the "paper lust" of bureaucrats and bring to court a youth he was sentencing for

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



New £2 will be coin of two colours

THE Treasury yesterday un-veiled Britain's new £2 coin the first to use two colours. It is embellished with a design tracing technological devclopment from the Iron Age to the Internet.

The reverse of the £2 piece, to go into circulation in Nov-ember, was designed by a Norfolk art teacher - Bruce Rushin of the Flegg High School at Martham. His work was chosen from 1,200 entries in open competition. The obverse bears the Queen's portrait by the sculp-tor Raphael Maklouf that is

featured on existing coinage.
The new coin has a white centre and yellow outer ring - comparable to France's rather less valuable Fr10 coin that has been in circulation for some years. The centre is in cupro-nickel, the same material as the 5p, 10p and



pared with 22.5mm.



50p coins, and the outer band in nickel-brass, a formula slightly different from that of

the £1 one, measuring 28.4mm in diameter, com-Mr Rushin's choice of theme was deemed especially

said, because it will be using

Two sides of the £2 coin, in circulation from November

The £2 coin is larger than

appropriate, the Royal Mint all its most modern production techniques to have mil-

lions of the coins ready fur general circulation. Angela Knight, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said at the unveiling: The

competition clearly captured the public's imagination. We were very keen to seek a fresh approach and Mr Rushin's design is an admirable

Tu make the coin more difficult to forge, the image seen on the centre depends

are issued to banks and Post Offices at face value and are legal tender," Graham Dyer of the Royal Mint said yesterday, "It was not our intention that they should be used as spending money, but quite a number have been." The new £2 circulating coin

will he available in collector versious in gold, silver and base metal from the Royal Mint in the new year.

Jackal questioned over attack on ex-M&S chief By JOANNA BALE AND BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

questioned Carlos the Jackal, the jailed terrorist mastermind in Paris, over the shooting of a former Marks & Spencer chairman and the bombing of a London bank in the early 1970s.

Two Scotland Yard officers travelled from London to interview him at a law court after a previous attempt to question him foundered last month when he refused to cooperate. The Venezualanborn convict - real name Illich Ramirez Sanchez - did not admit involvement in the attacks and dismissed the investigations as "Zionist

provocations" The Yard officers focussed on the attempted assassination in December 1973 of Joseph Sieff, the late M&S chairman, outside his London home, and on the bombing in January 1974 of the Israeli

Hapoalim Bank in the City. Mr Sieff, who was vicepresident of the Zionist Federation in Britain which raises aid for Israel, survived after being shot in the face. The

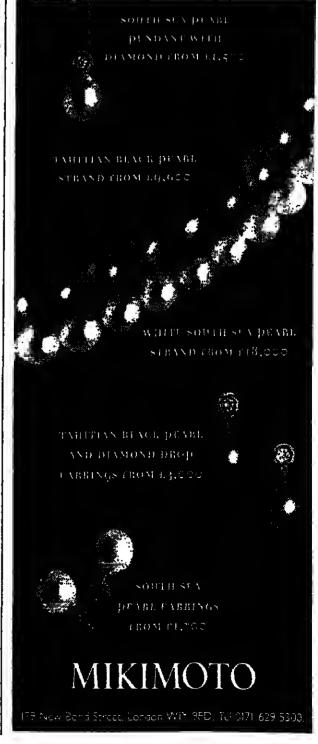
Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which Carlos backed at the time, claimed responsibility for the shooting.

Carlos reportedly told Al Watan al Arabi, a Paris-based magazine, in 1979 that he had been responsible for both the shooting and the bank bombing. But since his arrest in August 1994 Carlos has said the interview was a fake. Last month, Carlos refused

to leave his prison cell to meet British officers, accusing his guards of taking away his belt. Prison guards routinely take belts and shoelaces away from inmates to prevent possible

French police have accused Carlos of killing 83 people in a series of attacks in Europe and the Middle East. His boldest attack was the kidnapping of il Opec oil ministers in Vienna

A Yard spokeswoman said: "Two officers are currently in France liaising with the French authorities as part of routine inquiries. Nothing new has emerged."



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Pairing proves scandals never come singly

the Stalking Bill sat Jeff Ennis (Lab), the new-boy by-election victor from Barnsley East. He was almost alone on the henches. He looked totally bewildered. Perhaps he was too frightened to go anywhere else.

His fears are justified. At least the lights are on in the Chamber. The dark corridors of Westminster are far scarier. One of the curiosities of this administration's dying weeks has been the torchlight beaming into corners rarely illumi-

First there was David Willetts blinking in the glare, pencil in hand, whip's note before him. And now the light

arrangements. Let me explain

Pairing is normally a long-

term arrangement a Tory MP and a Labour MP arrange to consult each other regularly and to pair on votes where it suits both to be absent. But ad made for a particular vote: a sort of one-night stand. A Tory cannot normally register a Liberal Democrat as a pair, but in exceptional votes where what counts is the headline figure of all opposition votes combined, this might happen.

but directly between MP and

MP, then "registered" with the

Pairing is not normally arranged through the whips



whips messengers — servants of the House, good men doing bad men's dirty work. They inhabit cupboards on each side of the Members' Lobby and deserve their MBEs. An MP alerts them to his

pairing plans in advance, seeking their approval. They check lists. If there are no problems, the whips' messengers rubber-stamp the plans. But they are answerable to the whips, who intervene in tricky or unusual situations. Problems are referred up. "Pairing" whips from both sides meet regularly to confirm lists and consider awkward cases. Without an operational "I've got a backbencher on his deathbed in East Anglia; whom can you offer me?" pairing scheme, government

A Tory could not have paired simultaneously with both a Labour and a Liberal Democrat MP and simply registered this: the messen-gers would have checked with their bosses. Of course, nothing would be easier than to cheat. You can do it by more straightforward means than

now accused: pair one of your backbenchers, then send him through the voting lobby anyway. But you can only do that once, for the system runs on trust and is actually of more use to the Government than to the Opposition.

Members must be on hand to vote at all times, whereas the Opposition needs only to appear sporadically and to make lightning strikes.

If the latest row has arisen from an innocent mistake, this is likely to have occurred at the level of the junior whips at least. If the Tories really have cheated, they will have done so

that a government defeat after the European fisheries debate would have been even worse news than the allegation of cheating; and that there was a chance that the opposition whips might not spot the sharp practice.

Indeed it is whispered that the ruse may have been used before, without the Labour whips - in the past an often dozy bunch - spotting it. Donald Dewar may simply be the first Opposition Chief Whip to notice, talk to the Liberals, and compare notes. The Tories will just have to brazen it out, for apologies will achieve little: Mr Dewar is unlikely to call a ceasefire.

EU welcomes cull of 100,000 more cattle

Me sentence

prder case ju

adenins pul

bureaucra

ard plot

Enropean Union farm ministers yesterday cautiously welcomed Britain's decision to slaughter 100,000 more cartle, but said it could still be a long time before a ban on British beef exports was lifted.

Dooglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, told his Enropean counterparts that Britain would gn ahead with a selective cattle cuil. At an EU farm ministers meeting in Brussels, he said that there was little scientific evidence against a selective cull. He added that Britain would consider extending the cull to cover cattle affected by maternal transmission if this was scientifically justified. Franz Fischler, the EU Commissioner for Agriculture, welcomed Mr Hogg's statement but expressed frustration with the delay. He told Mr Hogg. "It might have been better in terms of consumer confidence if this decision bad

Tories seek caning vote

Conservative ministers last night fought off hackbench moves to reintroduce corporal punishment in state schools but were told that they will face another challeuge early in the new year. Tory MPs backed oway from an early vote on caning in schools during passage of the Education Bill but made it clear that they will press for a full vote in the Commons in spite of John Major's opposition to corporal

Outbreak's 13th victim

An elderly woman became the thirteenth victim of the Ecoli 0157 food poisoning outbreak yesterday. She was the third victim at Bankview Nursing Home, Banknock, in the Forth Valley area. Yesterday 234 people ocross Scotland were said to be infected with the bacterio after tests confirmed a further II cases in Lanarkshire. Numbers showing symptoms of food poisoning rose by one to 405.

Store blackmailer jailed

A blackmailer who threatened to contaminate Sainsbury stores with syringes filled with HIV-cootaminated blood was jailed for four years at the Old Bailey. Barry Dixon, 47, of Basildon, Essex, admitted demanding £100,000 from the supermarket chain. He told the company to leave the money beside the A127 ocar Basildon, but was caught after a relies growth these contaminates.

Jobs clear of stalking

Michael Howard has made clear that the legitimate activities of journalists, salesmen, political canvassers, debt collectors and private investigators would not be threatened by the Government's Bill to combat stalking. He said the Protectioo from Harassment Bill, which is doe to complete its Commons stages today, would provide a defence of octing reasonably.

Advertising squad

Company logos of commercial sponsors could appear on police uniforms and squad cars in the City of Loodon under plans to raise extra cash. The force hopes that sponsorship deals could provide an extra £600,000 per year, but a spokesman said any sponsor's logo would be discreetly placed. The police are setting up guidelines and making a list of possible firms to be approached.

Inquest adjourned

An inquest into the death of a motorist stabbed in a "road rage" incident was opened and adjourned today. The five-minute hearing was told that police found 25-year-old Lee Harvey, an unemployed bus driver, with horrific stab wounds oo a conotry lane in Hereford and Worcester on December 1. No members of Mr Harvey's family attended the inquest at Stourbridge in the West Midlands.

Grant for gays attacked

A lottery grant of £75,000 which will help homosexual prostitutes and gay men to claim social security benefits was criticised by community groups yesterday. The money will be paid over the next three years to provide an extra outreach worker in Yorkshire for the national charity MESMAC — Men Who Enjoy Sex With Men Action Io The Community — which gives welfare and bealth advice.

Christmas lights alert

Thousands of sets of Christmas tree lights from Taiwan have been fitted with inferior power plugs. Trading standards officers in Cheshire said the plugs, copies of a brand called PMS (model number 9248), can fall apart when used. Officers are satisfied the plugs were not fitted by the importers. Four Seasoos, of Knutsford, which has advised customers to return the lights to shaps for a refund.

Ruby Murray dies

Ruby Murray, left, the 1950s singing star, has died at the age of 61. Known as the "heartbeat" girl, she set a chart record by having five records in the Top 20 simultaneously. A feet applied taneously, a feat equalied since only by Elvis Presley and Madonna. Her best remembered hits some of her earliest, Heart-beat and Softly Softly, her theme tone. She continued

to perform until last

Obituary, page 19

Hello, sailors!

A hospitality scheme intended to offer warmth and comfort to 210 bomesick American sailors aboard the USS Aubrey Fitch moored at Plymooth has attracted offers of help from adventurous single women as well as families. The scheme, called Dial-A-Sailor, has received 300 calls in three days. Most offer Christmas dinner, but others are from womeo

previous day's decision of the Court of Appeal on the subject of the citizenship of Mohamed Al Fayed and his brother. Mr Justin Rushbrooke, for Mr Aitken. said: In the course of the source of the current sleaze allegations and were involved in 'cash for questions' accusations surrounding former ministers. The newspaper, unfortunately, quite erroneously included Mr Aitken's name as among those

accusation is, of course, wholly untrue. Mr Aitken has never been paid by never been made by Mr Mohamed Al Fayed himself. Times Newspapers have promptly recognised their error and have agreed to apologise for this untrue statement, to pay Mr Aitken an appropriate sum of damages and to pay

Miss Patricia Burge, for The Times, said that the reference to Mr Aitken in the article was an unfortunate error and unreservedly

Howard refuses to reopen 'tainted' cases against IRA

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL HOWARD an nounced yesterdoy that the cases of 14 convicted IRA terrorists would not be reopened following an investigation into explosives contamination at a government scientific laboratory.

The Home Secretary told MPs that an independent inquiry into evidence had found that samples examined at the laboratory had not been affected by a contaminated centrifuge machine. But he said lawyers for 13 men and o dead woman, convicted of some of the most serious IRA bombing attacks in recent years, could make further representations about the convictions.

Mr Howard was speaking after a report by Brian Caddy, director of the Forensic Science Institute at Strathclyde University, into contamina-tion at the Forensic Explosives Laboratory at Fort Halstead in Kent. It concluded that the results had produced a true measure of the presence of the explosive RDX, which is found

Mr Howard said: "We note Professor Caddy's key conclusion that the safety of criminal convictions is not in question as a result of the discovery of

Presideot Clintoo tempted to put oew life into the Irish peace process yesterday as he joioed Jobo Brotoo, the Taoiseach, in demanding an IRA ceasefire in Ulster. "We can't make peace until we end vio-lence ... I want to reiterate my call for the IRA to institute o ceasefire in words as well as deeds," Mr Clintoo said, in his first detailed comments on Ireland since his reelection. "If they do that I om coovinced that Sinn

Fein will be invited to

participate in the talks."

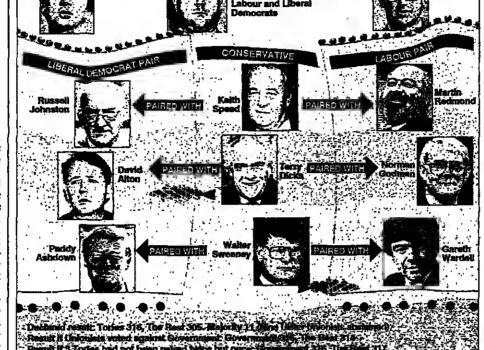
Professor Caddy began his inquiry after traces of RDX were discovered in a piece of machinery at the laboratory in March. His 43-page report, which reviewed all the scientific data in 124 cases between 1988-1996 in which RDX was found, criticised quality assurance lests and other omissions. His own tests found that the explosive traces could have had no "observable effect" on the relevant samples. But he found that the centrifuge had

since its installation. It was a "scientific oversight which is unacceptable and is to be much criticised".

The report, which added that the consequences of the contamination could have been potentially disastrous, made 18 recommendations, including tighter procedures and changes to existing practices and equipment at the laboratory. The Government has accepted 17 of them.

His most far-reaching recommendation was the creation of an independent Inspectorate of Forensic Science to monitor the laboratories. Mr Howard said that he accepted that recommendation in principle, but would weigh up its merits against the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice's suggestion of the creation of an advisory council

on forensic science. Sean McNulty, an Englishborn IRA recruit whose case was one of those studied, was sentenced to 25 years in 1994 after being found guilty of conspiring to bomb an oil terminal and gas works on Tyneside. David Hammond, his solicitor, said he would be seeing if the contamination represented additional



War on 'cheating' Tories

Continued from page I Democrat whips did not talk to each other, that was their problem. "Opposition liaison is nothing to do with us," one

Mr Conway declined to comment. But Mr Dewar and Mr Kirkwood said in a joint statement "We find it impossible to believe that the double pairing could be accidental given the care with which the

sides. The pairing system is built on trust. If trust is destroyed, the system is unworkable. To offer the same pairs to Labour and Liberal Democrats in a key vote is conduct that cannot be overlooked or excused, it smacks of

deceit and dishonesty." They told Alastair Goodlad, the Government Chief-Whip, that pairing arrangments were being suspended indefi-

episode as part of the normal machinations between the whips' offices, others were A senior backbencher said:

"We must grovel and get this over with quickly."
But Labour MPs were delighted that they had been given a perfect excuse to bring pairing to a close in the run-up

Lyell ends

By Valerie Elliott WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS are to lose the power to issue catch-all orders requesting the withholding of sensitive information

ing to protect particular papers from a court will bave to provide reasons. Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, the Attorney-General, is today to outline o "harm test" governing the use of Public Interest Immunity PH certificates, also known

as gagging orders, came to prominence after the collapse of the Matrix Churchill trial, in which three men were accased of illegally exporting military equipment to Iraq. PII certificates had been used by the Government to safeguard information which defence lawyers deemed vital for a fair trial. The trial collapsed when it was dis-closed that the Government knew of the exports.

The move represents a vic-tory for Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister who was determined to lift the repressive nature of PIIs and make them more acceptable to the public. It is also in line with Sir Richard Scott's recommendations in his report on arms to Iraq he advocated such a "harm test", and described the use of PII certificates in criminal trials

as "unthinkable". The test will apply to the contents of a document, and to whether its very disclosure could jeopardise the Government's reputation for protecting private information.

wide immediately.

that

A final decision on whether papers are released will continge to rest with the judge who will have to balance the interests of justice and the representations of o minister.

catch-all gagging orders

in court cases. In future, o minister wish-

Intelligence material will also be more readily released to a court. Only in circumstances concerning the nat-ional interest or where the protection of an individual nr informant is crucial will a minister be able to claim immenity.

Cards

Nurses to be given powers to prescribe

to the election and to harass

THOUSANDS more nurses will be able to prescribe drugs. and GPs will be encouraged to set up "super-surgeries" to ease pressure on hospitals. under plans announced yes-terday by the Health Secre-tary, Stephen Dorrell. He unveiled a White Paper

on primary healthcare containing 70 measures, which were welcomed by nurses' and doctors' leaders. The Royal College of Nursing described the proposals as the "best Christmas present nurses could have had", and the British Medical Association said that they reflected the priorities of GPs.

The White Paper proposes an extension of pilot schemes that allow nurses to prescribe drugs, so that there is one trial in every health region by next April. The aim is to introduce nurse-prescribing throughout the NHS by April 1998. The paper also includes more flexi-ble funding arrangements to allow GPs to expand their surgeries and 10 carry out minor operations currently

conducted in hospitals. Mr Dorrell said it was in the patient's interests to have as many healthcare services as possible near by so that they did not have to travel to a large hospital. Chris Smith, Shadow Health Secretary, said that the nurse-prescribing scheme should be extended nation-



wanting to meet a sailor of a particular age group.

Mr Jonathan Aitken MP: an apology add that this allegation has

the High Court yesterday to Jonathan Aitken MP, a former Chief Secretary to the Treasury, over an article published on November 14. The article reported the

of the former ministers. This serious and damaging

all his legal costs."

Mr Al Fayed nor by anybody that report it was stated else to ask questions m Parliament. I should also the Al Fayeds were

someth Think bigger. And bring the Card. Thought you'd drop by WHSmith just to pick up wrapping paper, ribbon and maybe some tape? Think again. You can actually get a lot of your Christmas shopping done while you're there. Because each WHSmith store is designed for you and your faotily's needs - with a wide variety of

they now accept it. Happy Christmas shopping! WHSmith.

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Life sentence for loveless loner who murdered girl

ه کذا من راهمل



Claire Hood: was stalked as she played truant

A BROODING college misfit who raped and murdered a schoolgirl after stalking her for months was inadvertently exposed by his

Neil Owen was jailed for life yesterday after being convicted of the brutal attack on Claire Hood. The 20-year-old loner, who had never had a girlfriend, strangled the teenager in woods near their homes after carefully planning how to ambush her when she next played truant.

After the five-week trial at Cardiff Crown Court, it was disclosed that Owen had been accidentally trapped by his mother when police called during one of the biggest genetic fingerprinting operations.

conduct a DNA test on Owen's younger brother. But Maureen Owen stopped the police as they were about to leave and volunteered: "Why not test my other two

sons as well? The court was told that Owen retained his composure, knowing that the saliva sample could incriminate him. When, a year and nine days after the murder, police returned to his home in St Mellons, he said: "I've been waiting for you

He had rehearsed an elaborate fiction about a secret three-month affair with the girl. When questioned he said that they had had sex in Cath Cobb woods when she skipped lessons at Rumney High January 1995.

The prosecution described him as "a desperate and devious young man" who tried to lie his way to freedom caring nothing for the girl or her reputation. One detective said last night. "He was a ticking timebomb who turned to sexual fantasies and then murder when he could not get a girlfriend."

Pam Bennett, 35, mother of the dead girl, who saw the jury deliver its unanimous verdict yesterday. said: "I am quite happy with the sentence, but I won't be happy until Owen is dead and in his grave." Mrs Bennett, who has another daughter, Sarah, aged 14, would never forgive Owen for the "absurd lies" he had told about Claire.

The court was told that Owen

had boasted about the killing to his brother David as they watched a television reconstruction of the girl's last moments, but later claimed that he had been joking. After testing more than 2,100 youths and men, however, detectives found that there was a one in 160 million chance of the killer

being anyone other than Owen. He became obsessed by Claire when he walked past her house each morning on his way to college to resit the GCSE exams he had failed. He would regularly spy on her bedroom window at night.
Owen, who was hooked on

computer war games and kept a hoard of pornography in his bed-room, chose to carry out his attack beneath the twisted branches of a dead tree, known locally by courtcigarettes instead of going to school, and followed her to the woods which he had learnt were her regular hiding place when playing truant. The girl fainted as he grabbed

her, but came round as Owen was raping her so he strangled her and waited until evening to roll her semi-naked body into a stream. When detectives found the body, there was a crumpled page of homework in her pocket on a poem about murder, called The Suspect. Owen's mother sat alone in court

vesterday as her son was sentenced by Mr Justice Buckley, Last night Roy Morgan, Owen's solicitor, said that there would be an appeal



Murder case judge condemns 'paper lust' bureaucracy

A SENIOR judge yesterday attacked the "paper lust" of legal bureaucrats as he sentenced a youth for murder.

Mr Justice Rougier said he was appalled that the teenager, Darren Lawrence, had not been sent to court previously. The 17-year-old was found guilty at Truro Crown Court of murdering Douglas Holman, a retired nurse, of Camborne, Cornwall.

The judge said: "I am in-formed that if a young person of Darren Lawrence's age is to be prosecuted for an act of violence then no fewer than 46 - yes, 46 - different forms have to be filled in to fulfil the paper lust of the bureaucratic element in our criminal justice.

system. This is grotesque. Ordering the teenager to be detained at Her Majesty's Pleasure, he called for change: "It is to be hoped those who exercise authority will agree with me that the safety of the public and the maintenance of law and order are more important than the proliferation of desk jobs and the consequential paperwork and will take appropriate action and

He said some blame must

to see how it was that, with their limited resources, other prosecutions were more important". The medical and psychiatric reports in the trial amounted to 850 pages.

During the seven-day trial the court was told how Lawrence had been in trouble with the authorities since the age of five. While living in a family centre in 1995 Lawrence had been involved in 28 incidents. of violence or threatened violence and had been cautioned seven times by police.

The judge expressed astonishment that charges had not been brought earlier. His psychopathic disorder might then. have been spotted. It was not discovered until he was on remand at Rampton.

The judge asked Detective Inspector Howard Stevens of Devon and Cornwall police: "How many times are the youth of Cornwall allowed to assault other people before being brought to court?"

Mr Holman was killed at his home with a screwdriver while members of his family sat in a neighbouring room, the court was told. A 15 yearold was cleared by the jury which rejected Lawrence's

David Haverly, of the Trials Issues Group, which is re-sponsible for formulating prosecution documents, said: "It is unhelpful to suggest it is bureaucracy for the sake of it." He said the number of forms involved could approach 40 if non-prosecution documents, such as fingerprint and prop-

vice spokeswoman said a simple case could involve as few as five prosecution forms. A juvenile case would add another two forms. There are no unnecessary forms," she said. "We are always working to improve the system." Other prosecution sources said privately that they were aston-ished by the judge's remarks.

erty records, were included.

A Crown Prosecution Ser-

Mr Justice Rougier, 64, has spoken out in the past. He once admitted sentencing a rapist to one year was a gamble and, two years ago, he ordered a man to pay £4,000 to the burglar he shot.

He was the judge who sat in the case of Jonathan Jones, the man convicted of killing his fiancée's parents, Harry and Megan Tooze, in South Wales. The judge later said he was surprised by the jury's deci-sion and Mr Jones was subse-Detective Superintendent- quently freed.



Schectman: claims Say You'll Be There is similar to her composition Come To Me

Spice Girls deny copying Israeli soldier's song

By Damian Whitworth

THE Spice Girls, the allfemale pop group and part self-confessed Thatcherites, were at the centre of fresh publicity last oight after an Israeli soldier said one of their songs was curiously similar to one she had writ-ten. Idit Schectman said she had consulted lawyers over similarities between her song, Come To Me, written two years ago, aod Say You'll Be There, the Spice Girls'

corregt hit. The 19-year-old lyricist and composer said she was pursuing her claim through the Israeli copyright authorities and might sue. However, Gerrard Tyrrell, the band's solicitor, said none of the five Spice Girls had ever heard of the Israeli soog. "The first the Spice Girls knew of this matter was earlier today when they turned oo their radios. Little information is available concerning the other song - which we ooder-stand contains lyries written in Hebrew, a laoguage not spoken by any of the Spice Girls -- but what is quite clear is that the Spice Girls have never heard of either the

artist or the song. He added that oo details of any claim had been received and no legal proceedings had been issued.

was flattered, my song wasn't so famous and their song is. There are a few things that are exactly the same." She claims the time and the translation of the Hebrew lyrics are similar. But Eddie Lawrence, a Select journalist. said: "It is noticeably similar, but oot the same. The same could be said about any oumber of pop songs."



Tories: the Spice Girls

resume her singing career once she completes her two years' national service in February. Meanwhile the Spice Girls' latest record, 2 Become 1, released yesterday, seems set to go straight to Christmas number one in the charts this weekend.

William Hill has closed its books oo 2 Become 1 being oumber one at Christmas. hort very much. Although I ted £500 at 16/1.

Judge jails gang | Car-death suspect in cashcard plot

BY STEWART TENDLER

LEADING figures in a plot to steal up to £800 million with counterfeit eashcards were jailed for five years yesterday. One of them, John "Little

Legs" Lloyd, had fled Britain after suspected of being involved in the £26 million Brink's-Mat bullion robbery in 1983 but returned in 1994. The Crown Prosecution Service decided not to prosecute Lloyd over the bullion raid. Last year police arrested him as one of the leaders of the cashcard plot.

The conspiracy was linked to Kenneth Noye, who went abroad after becoming a suspect in the M25 "road rage" murder of Stephen Cameron. Noye was never questioned about the cashcard plot and detectives now say they believe he was only peripheral to the

Yesterday Lloyd and six other men were sentenced at Southwark Crown Court, southeast London, after pleading guilty to conspiracy to steal. Judge Rivlin, QC, said the plan was "as ambitious a criminal agreement to steal as one can imagine. If successful, this conspiracy would have given you vast sums of

He told Lloyd, from West Kingsdown, Kent, that he considered him one of the principal plotters. Paul Kidd, 36, from Meopham, Kent, and Graham Moore, 32, of Erith, Kent, were also each sentenced to five years as senior

figures in the gang. Lloyd's son-in-law, Stephen Seton, 42, of Chislehurst, southeast London, was given four years; Moore's brother. Stephen, 41, of Leytonstone, east London, received three years and John Maguire, 36, of Mottingham, southeast London, was given two years. William Haward,55, from

Yalding. Kent, was given a two years' suspended sentence fined £50,000 with



Brink's-Mat robbery

is killed in crash

A YOUNG man wanted by police in connection with the hit-and-run death of the medical student Caroline Elliot died in a crash while driving another stolen car, police revealed yesterday.

L.ee Davis, Stockbridge, Merseyside, was in a high-speed car chase with police when the stolen vehicle he was driving crashed into a tree in Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

Five days earlier. Miss Elliot had been killed by a stolen Vauxhall Astra while jogging in Sefton Park, Liverpool. Police confirmed that they are not looking for any-one else in connection with the

Ms Elliot, a student at Liverpool university, died from head injuries. Her flatmate, Sarah Edenbrow, who was jogging with her, was seriously injured but was able to attend her friend's funeral on Monday.

Yesterday police said they withheld details of Mr Davies' accident to allow officers investigating the tragedy to personally inform the families of Police had been chasing Mr

Davies, for several minutes Lloyd: fled abroad after early in the morning of November 19, after reports of a

By KATHRYN KNIGHT suspected stolen car being

driven erratically. Officers were about 250 vards behind him when he swerved off the main road and hit a tree. A Police Complaints Authority investigation into the incident has been

launched as a matter of rou-A 17-year-old youth from Toxteth has been charged with allowing himself to be carried in a stolen vehicle, and bailed to appear before Liverpool

magistrates on January 20. In a statement issued yesterday, Miss Elliot's parents Mike and Ann said that had not wanted revenge, and re-gretted that another young life

had been lost. "We are pleased that all the hard work the police have put into the inquiry surrounding Caroline's death has now paid off," they said. "We will continue to give the police any assistance which they may now require.

"It has never been our desire to seek revenge on those responsible for the tragedy, but to seek justice and to prevent the same thing happening to someone else.

"If, as seems likely, one of those responsible is now dead, we regret that another young life has been wasted."

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New York court gives estranged couple's child a transatlantic future

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A CHILD will grow up commuting across the Atlantic between his estranged parents after an unusual ruling by a New York court.

Joseph Fowler, aged 16 months, who has dual nationality, will spend eight months of the year in this country with his British mother and four months in the United States with his American father as a result of the decision last week. The judgment, yet to be ratified by an English court, has been questioned by British experts in family law who say it would put tremendous strain on the

Jane and William Fowler had lived in mise. It is what has been agreed by both America since their marriage in 1990, parties and is legally binding. I don't

and Joseph was born there; Mrs Fowler returned to Yorkshire with him three months ago after their marriage broke down. Last month there was a countrywide alert when Mr Fowler took Joseph from Mrs Fowler's home in Harley. south Yorkshire. In spite of a watch on ports and airports, Mr Fowler, an unemployed electronics technician, was able to fly with his son to New York.

Mrs Fowler, 27. a nursery school teacher, began a court battle for custody. She attended the New York hearing and returned with Joseph at the weekend. She said yesterday that she expected the ruling to be confirmed by an Engish court shortly. "There is no ideal comprothink it's the best thing for my son to be ferried to and fro across the Atlantic. I do think the arrangement is bound to affect Joseph's upbringing. I am going to have to seek advice on how it will affect him mentally," she said.

"It will be very expensive in air fares as well. We will have to cross that bridge when we come to it. I am working and my husband is hopeful of finding a job so we should be able to afford it. When he gets to school age it will be arranged so he can go to school over here, but see his father in the summer holidays.

In New York, Mr Fowler said: The whole thing is a nightmare. I feel I was left with no choice but to accept the decision. I just hope everything works out for Joseph when he is over in Britain." Freefone 0800 800 800

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HOME NEWS

Saunders ruling may prompt change in law

'Draconian' powers under threat after Euro-court's condemnation

By FRANCES GIBE LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT officials are that gives Department of Trade inspectors far-reaching powers to compel suspects to answer questions then use the material in the prosecution against them

Condemning the way the evidence is used in Irials, the European Court of Human Rights said: "The public inter-est in combating fraud could not be invoked to justify the use of answers compulsorily obtained in a non-judicial investigation."

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) said it would examine the ruling to see "what implications there are for UK company regulators and criminal prosecu-tions". But officials have identified at least 200 pending fraud and insider dealing cases which could be affected by the ruling because the only evidence is "tainted" in that it was obtained by inspectors under compulsion.

The case comes exactly ten years after the Guinness fraud investigation began and rested on questioning by DTI offici-als that began on February 10, 1987, when Ernest Saunders, then chief executive of Guinness, was summoned to the City accountants Peat Marwick McClintock.

Flanked by his lawyers, he faced compulsory interroga-tion across a table by David Watt, a chartered accountant - both DTI - in what was the first of nine interrogations that would eventually lead to his trial and Imprisonment.

The inspectors were investi-gating allegations that Guinness indulged in a share-support operation during its takeover battle for Distillers in 1986. Mr Saunders had to comply. Failure to do so, under what his counsel, Michael Beloff, QC, called "draconian" powers granted to the DTI inspectors under the Companies Act 1967, could lead to a fine or imprisonment for up to two years.

George Devlin, Mr Saunders's human rights consultant, said yesterday: "Irs

SAUNDERS SAGA

Dec 1986: DTI inspectors carry out dawn raid on offices Jan 1987: DTI refer Guinness affair to DPP

Feb 1987: Saunders interro-gated for first time May 1987: Saunders arrested

the investigation
Nov 1989 & Jan 1990: Pretrial hearings at which
Saunders fells to have transcripts of interviews exscripts of Intervie cluded as evidence

Aug 1990: Saunders con-victed by Southwark Crown Court and jailed for five years May 1991: Court of Appeal cuts five-year sentence to two and a half years

June 1991: Saunders re-leased from Ford open prison diagnosed as suffer-ing from pre-senile dementia July 1991: House of Lords refuses Saunders leave to appeal to House of Lords

Dec 1994: Home Secretary refers case back to Court of refers case back to Court of Appeal after application by co-dafendants (Ronson, Parnes and Lyons) argues that prosecution tailed to disclose certain documents Nov 1995: Court of Appeal rejects appeal for second time

Dec 1995: Court of Appeal refuses leave to appeal on point of law to House of Lords

real Star Chamber stuff. Sometimes these interrogations go on in windowless rooms - and if you don't go along with it, you could be jailed. The whole situation is extremely intimidatory."

The interrogations had been on the cards since December 1. 1986, when DTI inspectors carried out a "dawn raid" on the offices of Guinness and Distillers and of seven other advisers in London and

The transcripts and documents obtained as a result of the interviews with Mr Saunders were passed to the Crown Prosecution Service, which passed them to police. In May that year, the police began their own investigation and on May 6 Mr Saunders was arrested and charged

creased to 15, of false accounting, theft, and conspiracy.

Yesterday those interrogations, and obtaining of material that led to Mr Saunders's conviction and imprisonment, prompted a damning indictment of the Government by the European Court. The authorities, the court ruled, had breached Mr Saunders's right to a fair trial.

As Michael Beloff, QC, put it. Mr Saunders was a man stripped of his human rights and forced to incriminate himself in breach of the protection afforded to all other defendants - even those accused of murder, rape, robbery, drug dealing or terrorist offences.

The ruling appears to knock a massive hole in the armoury of prosecuting authorities to combat serious fraud, and to re-assert the centuries-old defendant's right to silence. The right dates from the trial of lohn Lilburn in 1637, when he refused to take an oath binding him to answer all questions put to him by the Star Chamber. It rests on the principle that the burden of proof is on the prosecution and that defendants are under no obligation to help them to prove their case.

The right has been called the golden thread that runs through the web of English criminal law". But it has been eroded. Since 1856. a case established that the prosecution could use answers obtained from bankrupts, under threat of imprisonment, as evidence for a prosecution. But the Judges' Rules, drawn up between 1912 and 1918, stipu

lated that a person "cau-tioned" need not answer. The first English statute expressly to provide for answers to be obtained by DTI inspectors under compulsion was the Companies Act 1967, followed by the Companies

Yesterday, the European Court noted that part of a transcript of Mr Saunders's answers had been read to the jury despite his objections. Accordingly, there had been an infringement of the applicant's right not to incriminate himself."

Leading article, page 17



The 'bewildered old man' whose business brain earns £800 a day

By CAROL MIDGLEY

ERNEST SAUNDERS will forever be remembered as the man who made a miraculous recovery from apparent presenile dementia.

Five years ago be was described by doctors as a bewildered old man unable to finish a sentence, name the President of America or count

backwards from three. Now he charges £800 a day advising clients such as the pub-lishing company Richbell Strategic Holdings Carphone Warehouse.

The man whose name was once a by-word for fraud (his criminal record is stamped on his passport) and whose brain was said in the Court of Appeal to be shrinking, is

He is welcomed at the grandest of functions and companies pay handsomely for his sharp business brain and his "shrewd and enthusiastic" advice. His salary from his various

consultancies is reckoned to be about £150,000. He receives a £75,000 Guinness pension and makes an income from speeches and leetures. He has two homes — a £250.000 house in Putney.

Lawyers

consider

claim for

redress By FRANCES GIBB

of a compensation claim against the Government. He ran up a legal aid bill of £1.28 million in defence costs

for the criminal trial that was

held to be unfair yesterday. Bin he funded the six-year battle to Strasbourg himself,

£125,000 a year from consul-tancy work since being re-leased from prison and has had a pension from Guinness

since being dismissed in 1987.

and expenses and also cut his

plea for almost £340,000 in

court costs and expenses to

£75,000. Any compensation

claim against the Government

would depend on whether the Home Secretary referred his conviction back to the Court of

Appeal and whether it was

quashed. Without that, he is

Yesterday all the signs were

that that was extremely un-

likely. Government officials

pointed to the European

judges' comment that the

oucome of this trial might not

have been any different, even

if the DTI evidence had not

been used. The Serious Fraud Office said it would resist all attempts to have the convic-

non quashed or compensation

Mr Saunders indicated that

legal action for compensation

was one option. "My advisers

and I will now be considering

all the options open to us

still a convicted criminal.

Yesterday the court rejected his claims totalling more than £4.6 million for lost income

with the help of friends. He has earned an estimated

south London, and a £350,000 17th century house in Sidlesham, near Chichester, where he joins his wife, Carole, at weekends. Their former house, a man-

shire, had to be sold for £600,000 during the trial as did their Swiss apartment. About that time Mrs Saunders had a nervous their children James, 31, who wrote a book, Nightmare, about his father's experience, Joanna, 28, and John, 23,

which helped her through it and she is now recovered. Mr Saunders was sent to Ford open prison but his sentence was halved on ap-

peal and he served only 10 months in an open prison after a doctor diagnosed that he was suffering from presenile dementia. Patrick Gallway, a forensic

psychiatrist at Exter Nuffield Hospital, who expressed con-cern over Mr Saunders's inability to use a door properly in 1991, was unavailable for comment yesterday. Earlier sion in Penn. Buckinghamthis week, however, he said

from bim had had similar concerns. "We never made a diagnosis but all the doctors agreed there was some suspisaid. "Happily this turned out not to be the case." In a recent interview, Mr

Saunders angrily rejected suggestions that he had feigned illness. "The idea that I could presuade members of the medical profession that I had this condition is disgraceful. I resent it enormously," he said. "When I go to America and Europe I get a pat on the back for having come back from the dead. I get the opposite here in Britain."

Verdict another blow to Fraud Office

THE Strasbourg ruling is a blow to regulation of the City of London and is the latest in series of disappointments for the Serious Fraud Office. The SFO said yesterday it would resist all attempts to quash Mr Saunders's conviction.

The Guinness affair provoked a clampdown by the Government and authorities on what were seen as City of London excesses. It was the Department of Trade's job to investigate company scandals

and collapses. The SFO was set up after the Guinness affair to tackle large-scale fraud cases but prosecutions in high-profile cases involving Blue Arrow. Maxwell and George Walker flopped. Roger Levitt, onetime financial adviser to the rich and famous, was sentenced to community service.

City regulators have sought to co-operate more closely since the Guinness affair, but implicitly acknowledge that scope for abuse remained. There has long been talk of a front-running ring, in which brokers use inside information to profit on share deals, channelling the gains through secretive offshore havens. Details of suspicious share dealing are routinely passed by the Stock Exchange to the DTI.

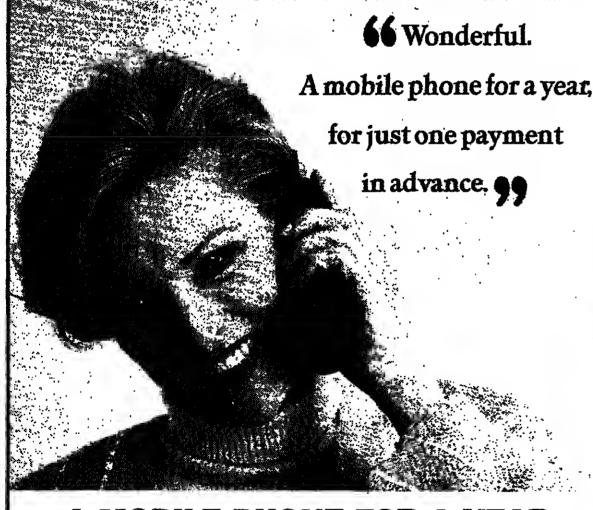
The prospect of another Guinness" has probably done more than anything to focus

The fall-out led to a closing of ranks by City regulators. and made bankers and brokers think twice before agreeing to act as advisers to a deal. No amount of success fees could compensate for the damage to a firm's reputation.

The case has been exhaustively heard in the English courts," the SFO said. Two appeal court hearings have the prosecution's

The European Court of Human Rights said it could not speculate on whether the outcome of the trial would have been made of the Department of Trade and Industry transcripts by the prosecution.
The ruling could have impli-

cations for Mr Saunders's codefendants, who are pursuing their own claims. Anthony Parnes, the stockbroker implicated in the affair, could have the most to gain. It appears that evidence in the DTI transcripts was fundamental to the prosecution, and without them there would have been no case against him.



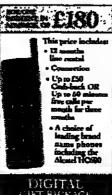
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ERNEST SAUNDERS hinted at fresh legal actions yester-day, including the possibility

Devlin: pleased

Private eye who spotted unfairness

GEORGE DEVLIN, the muitimillionaire and self-styled "human rights consultant" to Ernest Saunders, had reason to look pleased with himself

For six years he has worked more or less full-time prepar-ing the case first for the European Commission on Human Rights and then for the European court. "I was the one." he said proudly, "who first identified that the use of this evidence in Mr Saunders's trial was unfair."

Mr Devlin, 55, a tax exile with homes in Switzerland. France and London, started as a litigation and common law solicitor's clerk in a City law firm. He then turned private eye. spending 20 years specialising in investigations for solicitors and counsel in complex fraud. He was a principal in the company, Devlin & Co, now run by his

After a spell in the property business he took early retirement in 1992. He began working for Mr Saunders after the abortive second Guinness trial and says he still expects to he fully occupied on the case. This is going to go on

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Aunty's antiques knock down ITV's old soap

By Alexandra Frean, media corespondent

AN ATTEMPT by ITV to boost the flagging ratings of Coronation Street by launching a fourth weekly episode is failing in the face of unforeseen opposition from BBCI's Antiques Roadshow.

Audiences for the soap opera's Sunday evening slot have fallen from 15.7 million since its launch on November 24 to 13.5 million, compared to a steady 10 million for An-

Michael Jackson, controller of BBC1, said: "Antiques Roadshow is probably the most successful programme we have had against Coronation Street since Steptoe and Son in the 1960s."

Mr Jackson said that the fourth Coronation Street episode was not natural weekend viewing. "I am not convinced that every Coronation Street viewer wants to see it on a Sunday, "he said. It was a time for families to sit down together, but the programme ap-pealed mainly to a female

audience, he added. Mr Jackson's comments come at a difficult time for Coronation Street, which has recently lost its position as the nation's most popular programme to BBCl's EastEnders. A spokesman for Granada,

makers of Coronation Street, said that its core audience consisted of middle-aged people — exactly that targeted by Antiques Roadshow. Antiques Roadshow starts 15 minutes earlier than Coronation Street on a Sunday so people are already hooked by that by the time we start."

Mr Jackson was speaking at the launch of the BBC's winter schedule, which includes a £5.5 million production of Ivanhoe, Sir Walter Scott's novel set among the knights of the Crusades in medieval England. It stars Christopher Lee Steven Waddington and Ciaran Hinds. Ivanhoe was a hit in the 1960s for ITV, when it starred Roger Moore.

running the 1960s sitcom, Till Death Us Do Port, featuring the foul-mouthed bigot Alf Garnett, played by Warren Mitchell. In his heyday, the outspoken Alf Garnett caused outrage by referring to black son-in-law, Mike - played by Tony Booth, father of Cherie Booth, now the wife of Tony Blair, the Labour leader - as

a randy Scouse gir.

Mark Thompson, Controller of BBC2, said that it was unlikely to censor the programme, which formerly attracted audiences of up to 25 million, because viewers would understand that it ex-posed the bigotry behind Alf Garnett's views without endorsing them. "It is indisputably one of the

atest comedies that the BBC has ever produced and the overwhelming majority of viewers will be happy to see it back again," he said.

Another period piece, Jo-

be adapted for television for the first time, starring Colin Firth. Albert Finney and Claudia Cardinale on BBC2 Mod-ern drama in the BBC schedule includes a new prison serial, Insiders, written by Lucy Garmon, the creator of Peak Practice. Soldier Soldier

Michael French, who until recently played David Wicks in EastEnders, has a new role as a time-travelling detective in The Crime Traveller, and Sinead Cusack and Miles Anderson star in a modern marriage series, Have Your

and Bramwell for ITV.

Factual programmes on BBC1 include Children's Hos-pital, a look inside the casualty unit at the Alder Hey Hospital in Liverpool. East-Enders star Wendy Richard presents The Big C, a programme about cancer, a year after diagnosis of her own breast cancer.

Television listings, page 43



Steven Waddington stars in Ivanhoe, an adaptation of Sir Walter Scott's novel of medieval England, which is one of the highlights of the BBC's winter schedule

Daughter to boycott premiere of film

THE sister of an Australian pianist whose life story is the subject of an award-winning film has refused to attend tomorrow's European pre-miere in Londoo because she feels the movie is an insult to

the memory of their father. Margaret Helfgott has expressed outrage over "myths and inaccuracies" in a film about her brother David that portrays her father Peter, a urvivor of the Holocaust, as dictatorial and smothering them with love. She com plained to Australian oewspapers about "imaginary cenarios" in the film. Beat ings, it suggests, drove the son to a nervous breakdown. She is also said to object to ao actor with a German accent being cast as her father.

Shine, tipped for an Oscar and featuring Sir John Giel-gud, opens in Britain next

The director, Scott Hicks insisted that his research, which included talking to David Helfgott, had been

Dracula and Co repay stake in gothic horror

IN THESE days of The X 2,000 best volumes yesterday, Files the Victorian Gothic ghost story may no longer have the power to terrify, but it still commands the power of money. A collection of 2,000 tales of mystery and imagination, many by the most obscure of authors, were sold at Sotheby's yesterday for £233,000, more than twice the

auctioneer's estimate. The top price of £7,820 was paid for a pristine 1851 first edition of Ghost Stories and Tales of Mystery by J. Sheridan Le Fanu, not an author whose name is much bandied ty tables these days. By coma first edition of Bram Stoker's much better known Dracula went for £3,910, while a particularly rare first edition of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Mysteries and Adventures published in 1889

made a disappointing £1,650. Sotheby's book experts said last night that the collection was the finest of its kind to come to market within memov. There were no regrets. lowever, for the seller, Andrew Stevens, a Devon solicilibrary of ghost and mystery stories over 35 years and who, despite the disposal of his



Dracula: the legend has lost none of its bite

still has 4,000 left. He picked them up for a song at charity shops and street markets over

35 years. One of his best buys was an 1886 first edition of Robert Louis Steveosoo's The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, in its original paper cover, which he bought for one shilling (5p) from a bookshop in Wales. It went for £980.

"I am approaching retire-ment and I always saw my collection as a kind of pennight. "Besides, being custodian of so many books is a bit of staggered at the prices, especially as he had bought the top lot, the £7,820 Le Fame, et auction less than 20 years ago

and I began to collect the sort of books I liked reading. To the average reader, many of them will be extremely obscure but they are well known

"I have never been or holiday without finding books to add to my collection," he said. "I should think I've bought books in every county in England and Wales some from ordinary book sellers but hundreds from market stalls and charity

books had boosted interest. He added: "The Gothic field attracts a great many collec-

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HOME NEWS

Lincoln dean says he will resign if the money is right

THE Dean of Lincoln ar nounced yesterday that he was willing to resign from the city's embattled cathedral. The Very Rev Brandon Jackson said that his lawyers were negotiating with the legal ream at Lambeth Palace, the London home of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Earlier this year, Dr George Carey asked Dr Jackson and Canon Rex Davis, the Sub-Dean, to resign. The Dean said that he would resign only if Canon Davis went too. He now says that he is prepared to relinquish his freehold position unilaterally and that negotiations between lawyers have been taking place for some time. Canon Davis said he saw no reason to go.

The two men were speaking after the Bishop of Lincoln, the Right Rev Robert Hardy, announced he would boycott Christmas services at the cathedral in protest at their failure to resolve the longrunning dispute. Dr Jackson



Jackson: said bishop was the real problem

said that his departure depended on Dr Carey fulfilling his promise to preserve his "dignity and honour" and to ensure that he was not financially disadvantaged. "If the Archbishop welshes on his promise, then I will be happy to stay until I'm 70," said Dr Jackson, who is 62.

The dispute has its origins in a loss-making exhibition of

the cathedral's Magna Carta in Australia in 1988, organised by Canon Davis. Dr Jackson was appointed the following year. He was cleared by a consistory court last year of sexual misconduct with a former cathedral verger.

Dr Jackson said: "I am not

the centre of the dispute. The

bishop is. And he has failed for over seven years now to exer-cise his authority properly." A spokesman for the bishop said Dr Brandon "is continually saying he's going but he will never tell us when. And his perpetual attack upon the bishop is something which upsets the whole diocese." A married dergyman is to be examined at a church court over allegations that he had affairs with several parishioners. The Rev Clifford Williams, 48, a Church in Wales rector of Benliech, Anglesey, denies the claims, made in

Sunday newspaper. Letters, page 17



Stacey Carter-Brooks, 10, had two missing fingers replaced by the second toe from each foot

Transplanted toes help children to get a grip on life

in place, the toe grows and, to the casual eye. looks remarkably like a oormal finger.

without fingers and for those who have lost them in acci-

dents. The muscles and ten-

dons that control the fingers

are usually complete in the

arm and ready to be connected to the new digit. A micro-

scope is used during altra-

fine stitching of nerves and blood vessels.

Stacey Carter-Brooks, 10, from York, was born with two fingers of one hand missing.

Her mother, Deoise

Waddell, said: "We are very

happy with the results of the operation.
"Before, Stacey always tended to hold one hand

behind her back. She wouldo't play, she held back.

Now nobody notices that two

of ber fingers are toes. The

only problem is that she now

has a very slim foot, so shoes

TOES make an excellent subwithout fingers, a surgeoo's study has found. Walking is not affected and they are able

to grip and grasp.
The survey was conducted by Simun Kay, uf St James's University Hospital, Leeds, who has carried unt more than 100 of the toe transfers. Mr Kay lost a finger in a childhood accident and was inspired by the efforts of a surgeon to save it for him. That operation did not succeed and he was left with only

three fingers on his left hand. His study of the first 40 operations, involving the transfer of 66 toes, has shown toes working well. The child-ren were able to grip paper and Lego blocks and to twist jar lids oo and off.

The psychological benefits were also enormous, Mr Kay discovered, with the children less self-conscious about their hand and more willing to play with friends and take part in school activities. Once



THE BIG TEASE Joe Joseph's Quiz of

the Year in the Magazine

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Weekend **WEEKEND MONEY**

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Psychological society

Parents who row 'likely to produce high achievers'

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

FAMILIES that argue frequently — or are "expressive", as psychologists prefer to put it — are more likely to produce high achievers.

Research presented to the British Psychological Society's London conference yesterday showed that conflict within families, coupled with a strong sense of cohesion, produced offspring who are better prepared to deal with life's difficulties, regardless of the family structure in which they

Coming from a broken home was no bar to success in ideal of the nuclear family was less important to child development than what went on between parents and children, whether there was one parent or two. Achieving cohesiveness within the family was helped by one parent being absent for part of childhood but was harmed if there were too many sons, the study

Tony Cassidy, a senior lec-turer in psychology who carried out the research with colleagues at Nene College in Northampton, told the meet-ing: "We were looking at what-makes children more resilient to stress. We found it is not related to the structure of the family - whether it's broken or not - but more to its

cohesiveness." Encouragement towards intellectual and cultural pursuits was one of the most important predictors of suc-cess in families. But this had to be coupled with freedom of expression and encourage-ment to debate and argue. Dr

Cassidy said: "More expressive families tend to produce children who are higher in mastery - that is, they see problems as challenges rather than as threats. Stress comes threats rather than challenges. If expressiveness is not en-couraged, the children will tend to be less resilient in the face of stress."

The researchers studied the family backgrounds of 169 young adulis - selected from the Armed Forces, skilled nonmanual workers and students - and assessed how wellachieve. They found that high achievers were more likely to come from families which had experienced conflict in the form of rows and disputes with parents or siblings.

If it provoked debate and a search for solutions, conflict could inspire children to respond positively to challenge.



Sweet solution to sticky problems

By JEREMY LAURANCE

their way through chocolate bars and chewing gum to handle stress may have sniffed out two perfect calm-ing foods to help them through their day.

A team of psychologists studying the effects of smells found that chocolate and spearmint had a powerful calming effect. Blindfulded volonteers were used to measure effects on theta brain waves, associated with levels

Neil Martin of the University of Middlesex, who presented the findings to the British Psychological Society's conference yesterday, said: "Chocolate generated less theta waves than any other smell."

Spearmint had a similar effect, but synthetic strawber-ry boosted attention, proba-bly because it bore only a distant resemblance to the real thing and demanded concentration to identify it. Hot coffee had little effect.

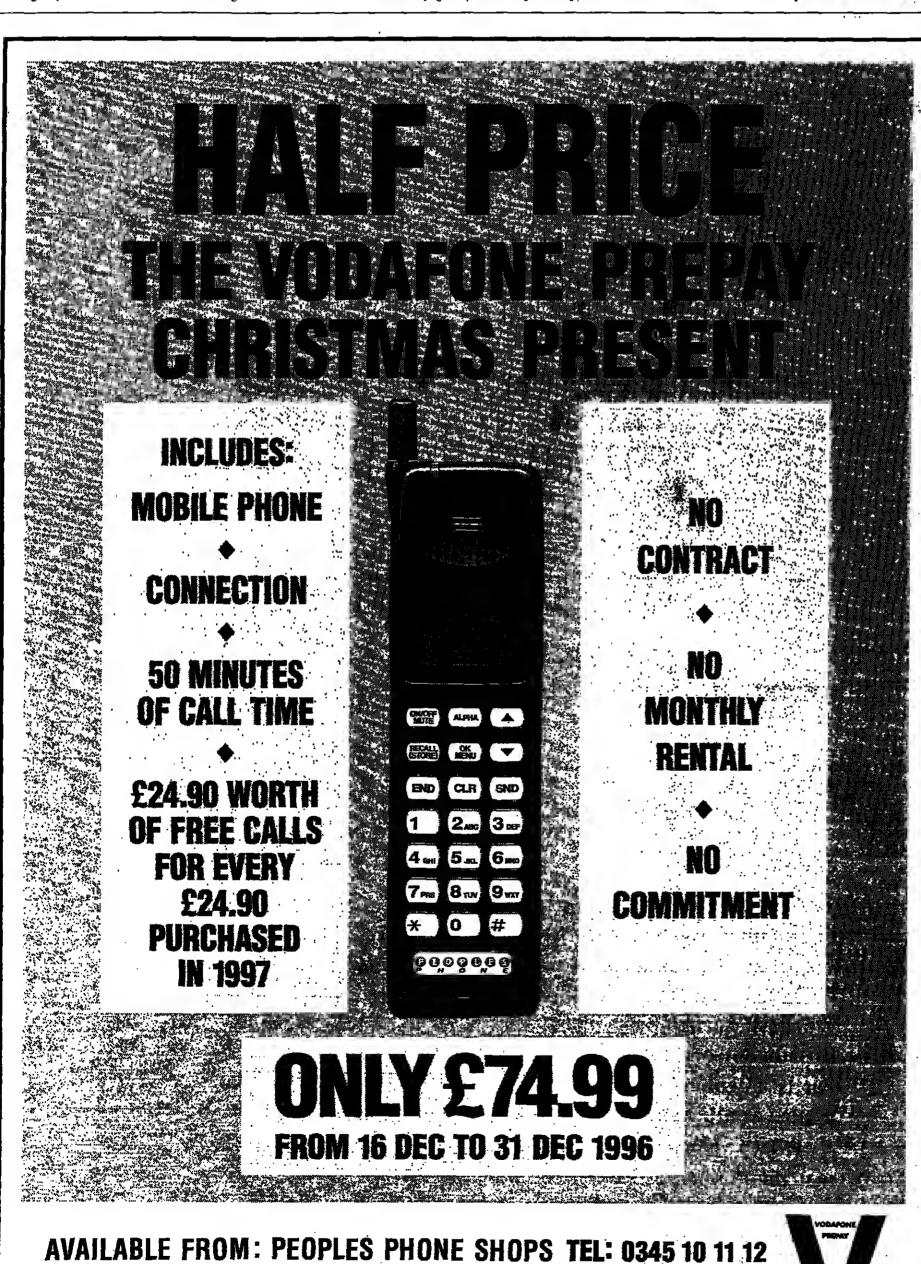
The experiment was partly fonded by the food industry. Dr Martin, senior lecturer in neuropsychology, said: Chocolate and spearmint are very sweet and may things that are relaxing. Or something could be tapping into a sub-cortical emotional

who have assisted forces has found that they were less accurate than a group of psychology University of Hertfordshire presented the psychics with details and objects from Essex murder cases and asked if they had any insights.

Three students had the

same information. Richard Wiseman said: "The students were bright and devised quite chies made ambiguous statements which they tried to twist when they were present-





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HOME NEWS

Popular schools 'should take space from neighbours'

POPULAR schools should be allowed to open annexes in neighbouring schools which have empty places, the Audit Commission said yesterday in a report which sparked a row over the Government's claims to have expanded parental

The commission said one in five parents failed to secure their first choice of school, while up to £100 million was being wasted on spare capacity. Popular schools were not expanding to meet demand because there were no incentives, but the use of neighbour-ing premises might help avoid gridlock" in admissions.

Bob Chilton, Director of Local Government Studies at the commission, said: "Parents do not choose a school for its buildings: it is the learning experience they are after for their children. If other buildings could be found in the locality, it would be one way of promoting choice without additional

Research by the commission showed that class sizes were growing in popular schools because head teachers were required to take pupils up to a notional capacity, which was often larger than parents or teachers wanted

At Coombe Hill Infants School, in Kingston upon Thames, for example, there were 210 pupils, compared with the official capacity of



Squire: attacked report's 'simplistic conclusions"

35 throughout the school. At the same time, however, the number of surplus places was growing year by year, despite Government promises to purge them from the system. commission estimated that 40 per cent of the 900,000 empty places could be re-moved if local authorities took a stronger line. One school

unable to capitalise on its popularity is Bordesley Green Girls' School in Birmingham. For seven years it has wanted to expand. The school can take 120 pupils a year but last year had 250 applicants, while a nearby mixed comprehensive school could fill only half its places. The empty desks at Park View School prevented Birmingham City Council from

winning government funding for new buildings at Bordesley

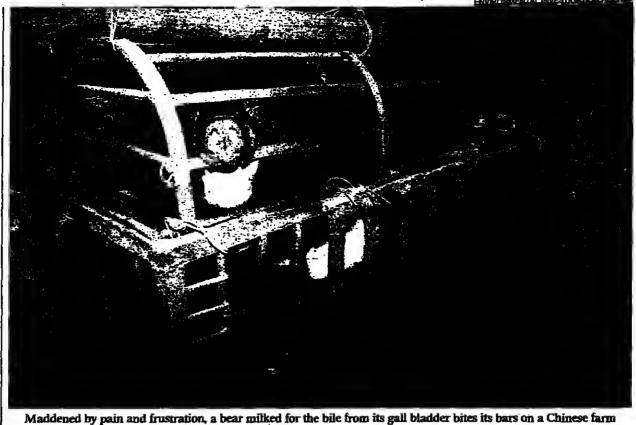
Abdul Malik, the chairman of governors, said the situation was a "nightmare" for parents in the predominantly Muslim community around the school. More than 70 families appeal against rejection every year but only two or three are successful.

Mr Malik added: "As chair of governors, parents try to lobby, request and beg me to do something because their child wants to be in the school. It is heart-breaking."

The commission's report found fault with both central and local government, "Inaction is not an option. Unwanted and unnecessary school places lock up scarce re-sources which could be used elsewhere."

Labour described the report as a "devastating indictment of government policy. David Blunkett, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary, said his party's proposals for local education plans, covering all state schools, were in line with the commission's

recommendations. Robin Squire, the Schools Minister, said: "It is a pity that the commission has devalued this research with some simplistic conclusions on the supply of school places and standards." He added that local authorities had all the necessary powers to manage the supply of school places.



Charity fights to free tortured bears from the milking farms of China

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BY DANIEL MCGRORY

THE rusted metal cage was so cramped, the bear could neither stand nor turn around. For hours, it would butt its bead against the iron bars out of frustration and pain. Nearly starved and demented by confinement, the animal fay m its own filth, writhing in agony from the gaping septic wound on its back

Thousands of bears are kent in conditions like these on farms in China and milked of the bile from the gall bladder, sold as a traditional cure. A steel catheter is jabbed into the bear's side and a plastic tube runs underneath the skin, protruding from the hole in its matted black fur. Every few days the bear is milked. The pain leaves the clamped animal moaning and clawing at its face. Often these animals are tethered by steel straps. After perhaps ten years of this treatment, they are left unable to walk.

Investigators working with Tusk Force's United States partner, the Global Survival Network, found that some of the cages had "crush" bars. designed to push the animals milking them easier. International protests have

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ersuaded the Chinese au-

thorities not lo go ahead with

planned expansion of bear

Tusk Force PO Box 29

animals. However, up to 15,000 bears are still caged. Many varieties of bear are

farms to a capacity of 40,000 12,000. In South Korea, the black bear is officially extinct. As supplies run out in

FORCE where demand for body parts is most intense, the number have dwindled to

CHRISTMAS

APPEAL

TUSK

the animals are slaughtered each year for their gall bladders in just one region of Russia. Cubs are left to die.

Bear paw soup, an Asian dish that costs up to £700 a bowl, is held to possess invigorating properties. In some restaurants in Asia, bears are boiled alive, after being beaten with sticks, "to ensure a good flow of fear juices".

Few Asian countries have specialised agencies investi-gating the illegal trade in wildlife, A bear gall, resembling a dried fig, is easy to hide and can be worth several thousand pounds. Herbal and synthesised allernatives to bear bile are available but there is little awareness of that in Asia.

Tusk Force and Global Survival Network are trying to educate Asiao consumers and seeking bester protection for bears and tougher enforcement of wildlife laws.

The West has its own assons to learn: in North America, 40.000 bears are killed lawfully each year but the same number again is taken by poachers. The North American black bear is the source of most of the trade in

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Eight boys expelled over drugs

eblamed o

Eight boys have been expelled from a public school after admitting using drugs. Chris-topher Saunders the headmaster of Lancing College, Sussex, said that a quantity of One pupil had been given money by the others to buy the drug and had made contact with a supplier.

Mr Saunders said: These are the first expulsions for drugs in the school since 1981 and we shall continue to take an uncompromising stand."

Officers bailed

Six army officers charged with rape were released on bail by Judge Paul Clark at Oxford Crown Court. The six. serving with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, will appear before magistrates on January 8.

Eviction halted

A High Court judge overturned Wolverhampton Borough Council's eviction under new powers of two families of travellers from waste ground. Lord Justice Phillips said it had not considered the humanitarian implications.

Wheelchair crash

Police are seeking an elderly hit-and-run driver whose motorised wheelchair struck an 89-year-old woman on the seafront at Bridlington, East Yorkshire, leaving her with a badly gashed leg that needed 19 stitches.

Service cancelled

Relatives of British victims of the Lockerbie air disaster have decided against holding a memorial service in London for the first time in eight years. A wish not to deflect attention from the Dunblane massacre was one reason.

Mandelson gibe

Sixty Tory MPs have signed an early-day motion accusing Peter Mandelson, Labour's campaign strategist, of "incompetence in failing to rig the BBC Today Personality of the Year polf in favour of Tony

Last post

Today is the last posting date

Leah Betts jury discharged after failing to reach verdict

By Michael Horsnell

A JURY was discharged yesterday after failing to reach a verdict over a student accused of supplying Leah Betts with the Ecstasy tablet that killed her. A decision on whether to order a retrial will be made by the Crown Prosecution Service

Norwich Crown Court any part in the supply of the class A drug to Miss Betts, who slipped into a coma at her eighteenth birthday party in November last year. His friend Stephen Smith, 19, from Basildon, Essex, has admitted being involved in the supply of

the tablet and awaits sentence.

deliberations lasting nearly

seven hours. Paul Betts, Miss Betts's father and a former policeman, said: "My main feeling is frustration at the fact that the matter is not over and done with. We have got to go through it all again, provided the CPS decides to have a chapter and the opening of

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British Ecological Society told that 94 per cent of flounders in Tyne show signs of feminisation

Sex changes in male fish are blamed on pollution

ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Fight boys

expelled

over drugs

Million bailed

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As the of Charle Crash

Service Cancelled

Maria Lander Be

eciate

FLOUNDERS living in the Tyne estuary are apparently changing sex because of industrial pollution, according to a new study of male fish which shows that 94 per cent

have signs of feminisation.

Previous studies have shown that caged trout exposed to discharges from sewage treatment works underwent sex changes, but yesterday's report is the first to show them in wild marine fish. The discovery, which will raise concern over the health of North Sea fish stocks, comes amid growing alarm over the effect on the environment of man-made chemicals.

Studies from around the world have identified nonylphenol as one of the chemicals associated with a fall in human sperm counts. The chemical, used in cleaning agents, glues and paints, appears to mimic the female hormone oestrogen or, in some cases,



Flounder: study found evidence of malformed testes, yolk proteins and enlarged livers in wild male fish

block the male hormone androgen.

the reproductive organs, enlarged livers and build-up of The latest study by Christiyolk proteins in the testes. Ms na Lye of the marine sciences Lye told the British Ecological department of the University Society's winter meeting at Durham University: "I would flounders suffered damage to not like to eat these fish."

flounders up to 2½ miles downstream of the nearest big treatment works at Howdon. which handles domestic and industrial waste.

Ms Lye, whose full findings will be published in the Marine Pollution Bulletin in January, said that water treatment works might be just one source of contamination, with the fish exposed to a range of pollutants discharged into the Type from other sources.

The research focused on flounders because they are bottom-feeding fish which migrate between the salty estuary and the North Sea and are considered reasonably resis-tant to pollution. Around 300 were caught and screened for sexual deformities and compared with 100 flounders from

the less-polluted Solway Firth.
Up to 50 per cent of flounders in the Solway Firth were showing signs of sex changes, compared with a figure of 94 per cent on the Tyne. Significans levels of yolk protein. normally found only in fe-

Where do the oestrogen-like chemicals in the environment come from? Thousands of chemicals could act like natural hormones. Attention has focused on nonylphenols (found in plastics, pesticides, agricultural products and car washes), phthalates (resins, plastics, dyes), and the breakdown of DDT. The contraceptive pill does not seem to be as important as naturally produced female hormones reaching rivers through sewage works. Are the amounts of these chemicals building up?

A COMPLEX CHEMICAL EQUATION

Possibly. Many substances that get into rivers are washed out to sea, but others end up in sediments. These may be eaten by bottom-feeders, recycling the poliutants. Is the problem worldwide?

Every developed country is likely to show similar effects. Most data on effects on wildlife has originated in the US. Recent clean-ups of rivers may have made the problem apparent.

Previously, many rivers were too dirty for wildlife. ■ Can the chemicals be removed from water?

No existing water treatment works do so. Technology might be developed if major culprits were identified. Natural female hormones identified as a possible major problem by the Environment Agency are made more powerful by bacteria in sewage plants. Are people at the same risk as wildlife?

Some scientists have linked falls in sperm counts, abnormalnies in the testicles and male infertility to the problem, but evidence is contradictory. No cause has been proved and some surveys show no decline in sperm count. How can we reduce possible risks? Is bottled water safer?

If water was the only source, bonled water might be cleaner because it usually comes from deep springs. In practice, every kind of food is a potential source. Changing eating habits on existing evidence is not justified.

NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

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males, were found in the testes of the Tyne male flounders. This indicates at best that they were producing less sperm and at worst were switching to

egg production.

Ms Lye said the livers of male flounders in the Tyne were nearly double the size of those in the Firth, "Also, between 30 per cent and 69 per

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malformed testes, versus 4 per cent in the Solway Firth," she

Scientists had suspected that chemicals from the contraceptive pill might be to blame for both a decline in the fertility of men and sex changes in wildlife, but recent research ruled this out.

has shown that, when a feeding fish turns up, the tadpoles instinctively group for de-fence. Scientists from De Montfort University and Imperial College London believe the tadpoles can sense the presence of a predator, such as a stickleback, before they actu-

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New de-icer 'safer than rock salt'

BY NICK NUTTALL

SCIENTISTS have discovered an alternative to rock salt that de-ices roads without damaging the environment. Gritting with salt is cheap but kills roadside trees and plants, as well as rotting cars and bridges. It can also harm freshwater streams and rivers. The scientists from Bradford University have been studying calcium magnesium acetate. Trees sprayed with it are unscathed and while some roadside plants appear to grow more slowly. none are killed. Alistair Headley, of the department of Environmental Sciences, said sali was being phased out in some parts of the United

The Highways Agency said it had been evaluating alternatives, including calcium magnesium acetate, but they had been dismissed on grounds of cost. Salt, which comes from mines in Cheshire, costs between £25 and £30 a tonne whereas the new chemical costs about £1,000 a tonne.

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75 POINTS

Injury ruling exposes rugby refs to liability

By Adrian Lee

SPORTS officials could be liable for substantial damages after a referee was blamed yesterday for the appalling injuries suffered by a 17-year-

old rugby player.
The Court of Appeal rejected
as "unsustainable" an argument by the referee, Michael Nolan, that Ben Smoldon had consented to the risk of injury by voluntarily playing a highly physical game

Mr Smoldon, who broke his neck when a scrum collapsed and is confined to a wheelchair for life, was awardeddamages in the High Court in April against Mr Nolan, who had failed in his duty to the er. The damages have yet .. to be decided but yesterday's ruling clears the way for Mr Smoldon to receive an award. of £1 million.

After the ruling, the Rugby Football Union said it expected its insurance premium to rise. All referees are automatically covered by public liability insurance, funded by the RFU. Since the High Court ruling, only a handful of amateur referees have told the RFU that they no longer wish to

Lord Bingham, sitting with Lord Justice Auld and Lord Justice Neill, said all rugby players should be insured against injury. But he said the court did not want to "open the door to a plethora of claims by players against referees and it would be deplorable if that

were the result". Lord Bingham said rugby was not a game for the timid or the fragile and all players must expect a "fair share of knocks, bruises, strains, abrasions and minor bony injuries". He said the match, between Sut-ton Coldfield and Burton-on-Trent Colts in October 1991, was very unusual as it had involved up to 24 collapsed scrummages, It was also difficult to prove that a referee was responsible for a specific injury. Neither Mr Nolan, 54, an Army cadet force administrator, of Tamworth, Staffordshire, nor Mr Smoldon, now 22, of Sutton Coldfield, were in

court. Mr Nolan's solicitors, Davies Arnold Cooper, said the referee was "saddened" by the court's decision. The scope of potential liability for sporting officials has today been greatly extended. The courts have now made it clear they are prepared to review, in appro-priate individual circumstances, the conduct of referees and any other officials concerned in the control of the game of rugby. In any active sport, injury might now subse-quently lead to officials being liable for hundreds of thousands of pounds."

Law Report, page 30



Michael Nolan, left, failed to exercise reasonable care in a match, leaving Ben Smoldon, right, paralysed

Number is up for italic car plates

By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

THE Government is to clamp down on customised lettering on number plates because it cannot be read by speed

cameras. Registration letters and numbers in italics or in the style of a computer print-out will be banned under a new British standard typeface, the Department of Transport announced yesterday. Although the existing rules

specify the height of the char-acters and the width of their strokes, they do not cover the typeface, a loophole that has led to a rash of new styles.

Ministers have not yet de-cided to make the existing style the legal standard, as lower-case letters and different colours are being

the Government inaugurated a four-month consultation on the future of the registration plate. The present system an annual registration letter followed by three numbers and three letters - must be replaced by July 31, 2004. It is unpopular with the motor industry because the August rush for new registrations coincides with the holiday

Options being considered include a quarterly change of registration letter to even out sales, a change of registration every three or four years to make use of a greater combination of letters and numbers, a geographical indicator based on postcode or region, and a deregulated system allowing any mix of characters and numbers.



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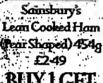
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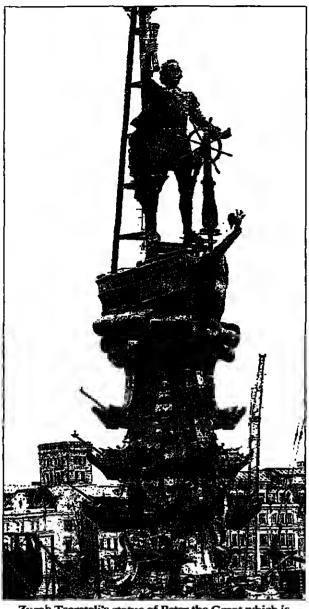


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W Mobulu propup / Moscow fury as Columbus dethrones Tsar Peter



IT IS vast, hugely expensive and in honour of a man who actively disliked Moscow. Furthermore, the critics of the monumental statue of Peter the Great being raised on the banks of the Moskva river say it is actually a recycled Christopher Columbus.

Members of the Moscow artistic intelligentsia staged a protest meeting last Sunday against Zurab Tsereteli and his latest 165ft statue. The protesters said that as much as \$50 million (£30 million) of city money has been wasted on the statue of a Tsar who rejected Moscow as his capital. The statue is being erected to mark the 300th anniversary of the Russian Navy in what is a landlocked city. The statue itself is not impressing Muscovites either.

"It is monstrous, I just don't have the words for it," said Yuri Nikolayev, an oil painter selling his pictures on the em-bankment in the shadow of the statue.

The final charge against Mr Tsereteli is the most unusual one: self-plagiarism. Four American cities rejected his plan for a 311ft statue of Columbus before the city of Columbus. Ohio, approved the idea. But they have not yet found the funding to start creating it.

Mr Tseretell has denied that the statue is just an inverted image of his earlier design, but the similarities are striking. Columbus stands on a ship on top of a thick column, left arm raised, right arm resting on a ship's helm. Peter the Great is also standing on a ship on a column. Only it is his right arm that is lifted up, holding a scroll. His left hand is holding an eightspoked ship's wheel identical to the one on the Columbus statue.

It is not the first time that Mr Tsereteli has been accused of recycling designs. A sculpture in bronze called Tragedy of the People, in memory of the victims of the Nazis, was commissioned for Moscow's war memorial park, Poklonnaya Gora (The Hill of Bows). ft depicts the gradual

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW



Peter the Great, the Tsar who rejected Moscow as his capital



Columbus, who found America while seeking a route to India

(sraeli commission that was later shelved. After a host of complaints the Russian version, which used up most of the bronze in the city's sculpture store, has been shipped to a less prominent location.

For the sculptors of the Moscow Artists

his "cultural adviser", the folk singer losif Kobzon, Mr Tsereteli has already put up five major monuments in the capital. His largest monument to date, a war

memorial called St George and the Dragon, is particularly controversial. It is supposed to be an angel perched on a sword, but has been unfavourably compared to a cockroach skewered on a pin. Alexander Solzhenitsyn recently joined the chorus of complaint and fulminated against Mr Tsereteli's massive and third-rate monuments".

Igor Bondarenko, an architectural historian, said his main objection to the new statue was ethical not aesthetic. If it was not Mr Tsereteli, he said, they were capable of commissioning "someone even

"I am depressed and annoyed by a system in which someone can take cisions like this without any consultation," said Mr Bondarenko. "Why should I be forced to look at this Columbus in a new guise when city money could be being spent in so many better ways?"

Mr Tsereteli first won fame 15 years ago with a statue celebrating the friendship of the Georgian and Russian peoples. A tall rectangle spilling out letters of the Georgian alphabet, it met with a puzzled but generally positive response in Moscow. His abstract style was greeted as a welcome change to the tradition of sombre, figurative statues of Soviet leaders. But ironically since the break-up of the Soviet Union, Mr Tsereteli has reverted to the more traditional style against which he used to react.

He is now consolidating his status as court artist. He and his patron, Mr Luzhkov, were recently awarded the Russian State Prize for Literature and the Arts by President Yeltsin.

"My work is not yet finished, so it is too early to give any kind of evaluation," Mr Tsereteli said at the weekend. "It will be a new ensemble of worldwide importance which is why the Moscow Government is attaching such buge importance to the



Columbus, commissioned by Columbus in Ohio, which critics say is a model for the Moscow work

Aid workers quit Chechnya over **Red Cross deaths**

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

operations.

agreement.

using silenced weapons murdered six Red Cross workers, five of them women, as they slept in their beds.

brutal incidents of the twoyear separatist conflict, several suspected Chechen gunmen broke into a hospital in Novye Atagi, II miles south of Grozny, and murdered the aid workers early yesterday.

Local residents came out to

watch as colleagues of the victims loaded coffins onto a white lorry bearing the logo of the International Committee of the Red Cross. The hospital has treated 1.500 people since it opened in September.

No one claimed responsibility for the murders, and both the Chechen authorities and the Kremlin were quick to condemn the incident and emphasised that it should not be allowed to undermine their peace agreement. Nevertheless, the attack did

have the immediate effect of halting practically all foreign assistance to the region.

The ICRC described the incident as the single worst attack on its organisation in its 133-year history and ordered the immediate evacuation of its remaining staff from the war-torn republic, It named the victims as: Hans Elkerbout, a Dutch construction technician; Ingeborg Foss, a Norwegian nurse; Nancy Malloy, a Canadian medical administrator; Gunnhild Myklebust, a Norwegian nurse; Sheryl Thayer, a New Zealand nurse; and Fernanda Calado, a Spanish nurse.

News of the murders caused panic in the foreign aid com-

WESTERN aid organisations yesterday ordered an emergency evacuation of their staff from Chechnya, after gummen munity working in Chechnya. Merlin, the British medical charity, ordered the evacuation of its staff from the area. It has suspended its programme for one week while it considers whether or not to continue its

> reportedly pulled out its staff from Chechnya earlier this year after a number of its employees were kidnapped by masked gunmen and only freed after ransom payments.

Ruslan Kutayev, a Chechen official, said the killings were "an intentional and planned provocation aimed at foiling" presidential and parliamenta-ry elections scheduled for January 27. It is widely suspected that hardline Chechens, opposed to the peace deal with Russia, may have targeted the Red Cross workers in an effort to destabilise the shaky

The attack will be particularly humiliating for Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, the Chechen President who is running for re-election, because he lives in the village and it is considered one of his strongholds. His authority has been severely tested over the past few days. Over the weekend Salman Raduyev, a renegade Chechen guerrilla leader, made his opposition to the truce with Moscow plain when he abducted 22 Russian servicemen and issued de-

mands for their release. The two incidents, coming so quickly one after the other, have renewed speculation that, once Russia pulls the last of its troops out of Chechnya next month, the nation will not evolve into a new democracy but rather slip into a state of anarchy where authority will lic with various armed clans.

Daughter's role denied by Kremlin

BY THOMAS OF WAAL

THE Kremlin denied a newspaper report yesterday that Presideot Yeltsin's daughter, Tatyana Dyachenko, is going to be given the official status of presidential aide, a move that would agoint her formally in her role as the President's closest adviser.

The heavyweight newspaperSegodnya said given an official title before he month's end. Sergei Yastrzhembsky, Mr Yeltsin's press secretary, denied the report, but gave himself a letout, saying only that there were "no documents con-

firming the appointment.

Mrs Dyachenko, 37. is credited with having been her father's chief image-maker during the summer election campaign. Since then she has stayed one of his closest political advisers and a close colleague of Anatoli Chubais, the Kremlin chief of staff.

A monthly poll of experts in Nezavisimaya Gazeta to list Russia's "100 leading politicians' put Mrs Dyachenko tenth this month, ahead of the defence, interior and finance ministers. The Oppositioo dubs her part of an unac-countable clique running the Kremlin.



Dyachenko: top adviser

Russian intelligence service exposes 400 spies in two years

By RICHARD BEESTON that the activities of foreign

IN THE past two years officers with Russia's counterintelligence service have identified and put under surveillance about 400 foreign operatives and apprehended 39 locally recruited Russian spies, Nikolai Kovalyov, its head, said yesterday.

He added that Moscow was ready to overlook this year's damaging spy dispute with Britain, predicting that the two countries would continue to co-operate on intelligence.

Speaking st a Moscow press conference, Mr Kovalyov, who heads the Federal Security Service (FSB), the successor to the KGB, said Russia was the target of numerous foreign spying networks. "Unfortunately, the forecast for the coming years tioes not suggest special services will diminish," he said. Among recent arrests, he highlighted that of Platon

Obukhov, the junior Foreign Ministry official accused of spying for Britain. His arrest in April triggered the worst spy dispute since the Cold War, involving the expulsions of eight diplomats, four each from the embassies in Moscow and London.

The British assumed the mode of communication they used was based on the latest technology, the latest achievements of science and technology, and they thought this was perfectly safe," said Mr Kovalyov, suggesting Britain had been lax in handling Mr Obukhov. "I do not think it will affect the relations between the two countries," he said. "In some ways the British special services have helped us a great deal."

He also accused the United States, Israel, Sweden, Turkey and the Baltic states of running intelligence-gathering operations in Russia, adding that a Russian working for an unnamed European state would be exposed soon.

Still based at the Lubyanka, the infamous home of the KGB, the FSB has lost much of its power over the past five years. Its inadequacies were exposed during the Chechen conflict, when it failed miserably to gather intelligence on separatists.

It is becoming increasingly active in areas such as fighting organised crirce, cor-



OPEN EVERY DAY UNTIL CHRISTMAS

Daugh role dei by Kres

Sick Mobutu flies home with mission to prop up Zaire FROM SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT, IN NAIROBI AND BEN MACINITYRE IN PARIS

Zaire returned to Kinshasa yesterday after months of cancer treatment in Europe to confront his toughest political task - how to prevent the break-up of the vast country.

Stepping off his chartered plane from Nice, the last of Africa's great dictators, who has amassed billions during his repressive 31-year rule, raised his hands in salute to 20,000 "supporters" in the crumbling capital. The 66-year-old leader was accompanied by a huge entourage of security guards, aides and family members.

His flight was followed by a cargo plane carrying consumgoods such as French washing machines, refrigerators, televisions, video recorders and other items purchased in a last-minute shopping spree by the Mobutu clan. Each of the consumer durables, making up the President's baggage, costs more

PRESIDENT MOBUTU of than the average Zairean's annual wage of £200.

Many African observers were surprised that Mr Mobutu bothered to return. "He has salted away the best part of \$9 billion (£5.4 billion), he's dying, old, and has proba-bly lost all credibility he had with his own people. Why he didn't stay where he was fin the south of France] and watch Zaire fall apart on satellite TV beats me," one Western ambassador in Nairobi said.

But others believe only he can hold Zaire together as rebels in eastern Zaire have seized control of a swath of the country and routed his army. The rebels - the Alliance of Democratic Forces for Liberation, Congo-Zaire - under Western pressure have been offering ceasefire negotiations for the last ten days. So far Mr Mobutu has given few clues to his plans for tackling the Rwandan-backed rebel offensive in the east.

> control of the rebels led by a veteran guerrilla leader, Laurent Kabila. They have vowed to march on Kinshasa. African leaders are worried that, if Zaire falls further into chaos, anarchy will spread to the nine nations bordering it; civil wars already rage in

South Kivu are now under

counter-offensive.

Burundi and Sudan. Mr Mobutu's first task may be to rein in his own administration before both the Government and Zaire collapse under a rebel onslaught, "This is the sort of challenge he might like. Perhaps he will rise to it," a veteran African diplomat said.



A woman tries to protect her belongings yesterday as she wades through the floodwaters in the southern Indian city of Madras. Thousands of homes were submerged, rice crops were damaged and more than 80 people were killed during heavy rains in Tamil Nadu state last week

Peking's chosen chief tells Patten to face reality

TUNG CHEE-HWA, Hong Kong's Chief Executive-designate, yesterday urged the Governor, Chris Patten, to face the reality" and help to establish

a form of government for the future. "Too much argument has gone on over the provisional legislature," the 59-year-old shipping tycoon said in comments before flying to Peking for his formal appointment as the future leader of post-colonial Hong Kong. Mr Patten has denounced the proviFROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG (LegCo). The new 60-member council

sional legislature as unwarranted and says he will have nothing to do with it. Speaking to the Joint Chambers of Commerce, Mr Tung said the British and Hoog Kong Governments were

next year, will replace the present

wholly elected Legislative Council

will be chosen on Saturday. Both councils will operate at once and, obviously, in mutual opposition. Although the provisional council will "wrong" for refusing to co-operate not formally take office until July L, its with Peking's handpicked Provisional influence will be great if not decisive Legislative Council which, on July ! from the start. Nevertheless, Mr

Patten has described it as "this echo

chamber". Mr Tung has admitted that

there are doubts about its legality, but

he said this will be resolved.

Although Mr Tung was careful yesterday not to set any clear limits on free speech, he left no doubt what he would discourage, Achieving our aims need not go through open confrontation or street demonstrations," he said in an oblique reference to Hong Kong democrats, who frequently take to the streets to protest against Chinese actions.

Israelis reject US criticism

President Mobutu and his wife arrive at Nice

airport from where they flew home to Kinshasa

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

THE Israeli Government yesterday rejected criticism by President Clinton that its policy of Jewish

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, de-clined to comment but Yîtzhak Mordechai, the Defence Minister, made it clear that his Government intended to expand Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. despite increased pres-sure from the United

States oot to do so. The policy of this Government is to strengthen settlement in places where it exists," Mr Mordechai told reporters during a

visit to the Gaza Strip. There are natural needs and necessary growth and I believe this policy is clear and was explained to every national and international element. If there are disagreements, it is better for us to talk about them."

Australia uncorks wine's genetic code

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

its worldwide reputation with the development of genetically enhanced vines.

The breakthrough, announced by scientists in Adelaide yesterday, is expected to transform the country's wine and dried fruit industries by boosting - both - productivity and quality.

Australian researchers believe the generically modified vines will produce superior grapes, enhanced flavour, improved colour development and increased disease

The research team, funded by the Australian Government's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, has already produced 20 grape vines from single cells in a test tube environment, each containing a new introduced gene.

Nigel Scott, the research team leader, revealed that they had managed to isolate the vine genes responsible for differing characteristics, such as colour and sugar accumula-

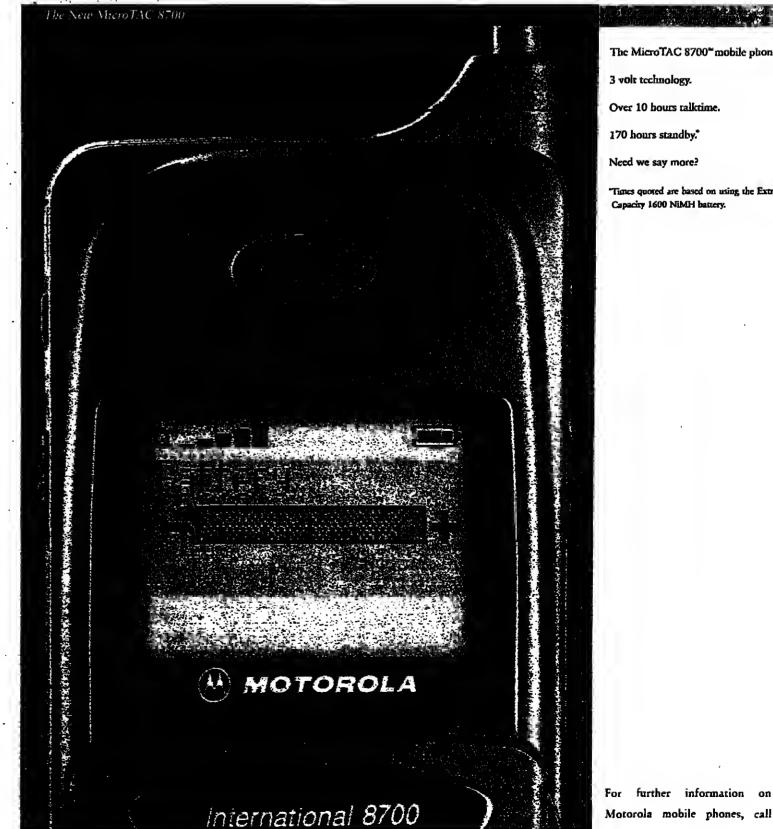
THE Australian wine industry, which already enjoys an enormous British following, is poised to further consolidate genes in a modified form into the grape vines.

That's what we have now, he said. "It is a tool which is used for most transformations of plants but for grape vines it has been more difficult. It is the last piece of the jigsaw puzzle we need."

Mr Scott said their research would now move on to colouring agents in other grape vines including the chardonney and cabernet varieties. Success in this area could reduce the need for sulphur dioxide in white wines and enhancing the colour of red varieties. The process might also help to isolate those genes which prevent some of the more damaging vineyard diseases.

Australia's wine industry. already worth £750 million. produced an all-time record grape output for the 1996 intage of 885,000 tonnes. With production expected to increase rapidly over the next few. years, yesterday's announcement could place Australia on the threshold of a worldwide wine bonanza.

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Clintons' fighting fund repays cash to Buddhist sect

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE CLINTONS have been forced to repay \$640,000 (about £400,000) in questionable Asian donations that settling the mounting legal costs of scandals involving the

The latest embarrassment to the President and his wife emerged after trustees of their legal defence fund announced that much of the money, received from an Asian businessman in Little Rock, had been raised at American meetings of a controversial Buddhist sect based in Taiwan.

Although the money was returned last spring, long before a controversy erupted over Democratic campaign finances, the repayment was not made public until more than a month after the Clintons were returned to the

Created in 1994 to help to pay the legal fees incurred by either Bill or Hillary Clinton. the defence fund currently faces \$2.2 million in bills from inquiries into Whitewater, the Paula Jones sexual harassment suit and numerous other investigations. Without the dubious donations, trustees said the fund now totalled little more than \$100,000.

Mrs Clinton is once more at the heart of this latest sage involving Charles Yah Lin Trie, a native of Taiwan and a longstanding friend from Ar-kansas, In March Mr Trie presented the fund with two large envelopes filled with cheques, all apparently from American citizens. Many of the cheques seemed to have been issued by the same people, others were corporate and most of the money had been raised at meetings of one Buddhist organisation. The rules of the defence fund insist contributions cannot come from companies, must



Hillary: new saga

be personal and should be no reater than \$1,000 a year. The Suma Ching Hai International Association is one of the fastest growing sects in the United States. Disciples are ordered to divorce their spouses and stop having sex with their partners if they fail to recruit them to the Buddhist organisation.

Ching Hai, the master, has auctioned personal effects, handkerchiefs and even her Volvo to raise funds for the group. Last year one initiate said she had spent \$800 on a pair of the leader's socks.

We concluded under the circumstances we should not accept the contributions and

Belgians reward top sax appeal

Brussels: President Clinton's services to the saxophone have been recognised by a Christmas present from the Belgian town of Dinant, birthplace of the saxophone's inventor Adolphe Sax (1814-1894). The gift was a brooch made from 18-carat gold in the form of Mr Clinton's fathe decision to return the Mrs Clinton," said Michael Cardozo, the chief trustee. At the time the trustees informed both Mrs Clinton and Harold Ickes, the deputy

White House chief of staff, of their concerns and the cheques vere locked in a box while investigators tried to trace all the donors. Initially, Mr Cardozo said, Mrs Clinton appeared not to recognise Mr Trie's name, but then remembered that he had a restaurant in Little Rock. "Only then did she say. 'Oh I think that is one of the restaurants where Bill used to go for lunch when he

Under the circumstances in was therefore surprising that two weeks after the meeting the White House announced the appointment of Mr Trie to a 16-member advisory panel on Asian trade.

The return of the money is certain to focus further atten-tion on this shadowy figure from the Clintons' past. Even before the announcement, there were indications that the Taiwanese restaurant owner may have had a hand in orchestrating questionable contributions to the President's re-election committee.

He first met Mr Clinton while he was running the Fu Lin restaurant in Little Rock but has since become an international business consultant who maintains a flat at the Watergate complex in Washington and has recently started a partnership with Ng Lap-seng, a Chinese born developer living in Macau. Mr Trie also has links to the

Riadys, the Indonesian billionaires at the centre of congressional inquiries into irregular donations to the Democratic electoral cam-



American women break through \$10m pay barrier

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

FEMALE chief executives in American business saw their salaries leap last year, breaking through the multi-million

for every dollar carned by men in American business, and only 2 per cent of the bestpaid executives are female, but the gains suggest that change is on the way,

The top woman on Working Womon magazine's list, fitness executive Linda Wachner, was paid \$11.2 million (£7 million) last year - a male executive. Lawrence Coss, who was paid \$65

The number of women in the ranks of best-paid executives at "Fortune 500" companies (the best-known firms in the United States) almost doubled last year.

According to company re-ports filed with the US Securi-ties and Exchange Commission, the ten best paid women in US business are: ☐ I: Linda Wachner, Warnaco and Authentic Fitness, 2: Jill Barad, Mattel toys,

nearby Cocoa Beach.

booster was blamed.

the right solid-fuel rocket

Within a day, hundreds of

pounds of metal was salvaged.

The remains of the astronauts

were found in March 1986 in

Both items were to be taken

the debris of the crew cabin.

etics, \$3.8 million. ☐ 6. Ngaire Cuneo, Conseco insurance, \$3.7 millioo. ☐ 7. Jane Hirsh, Copley pharmaceuticals, \$3.4 million.
 ☐ 8. Nancy Pedot, Gymboree

clothing, \$3.2 million. 9. Donna Karan, Donna Karan fashion, \$2.8 million. ☐ 10. Sharon Mates, North

3: Carol Bartz, Autodesk

☐ 4. Sally Crawford, Healthsource, \$4 million.

computers, \$5.5 million.

Williams charge over Senna used liberally in Italy

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

TTALIAN legal experts said yesterday that Frank Williams, the Formula One team leader charged with manslaughter over the death of Ayrton Senna, the world champion, was unlikely to face the full sentence of five years in prison if convicted.

Lawyers said it was proba-ble that he and five other people, due to stand trial in Rebruary, would be given suspended prison terms of less than a year.

Manslaughter — in Italian

omicidio colposo, literally cul-pable homicide — is a charge frequently brought in Italy in cases where a person is deem-ed to have contributed to the death of another "through negligence or fault. It is generally regarded with indolgence", one legal expert said. Often the defendant is not required to appear in

The announcement of Mr Williams' trial raised little missed by Italian newspapers yesterday in a few brief paragraphs in the sports pages. The Italian legal system, based on a combination of Roman law, the Code Napoleon and Fascist-era laws, is

long-winded. Approximately half of all cases brought are eventually thrown out, while many others take years to come to court.

The charge against Mr Wil-liams under article 589 of the Italian penal code, which provides for manslaughter year inquiry by the public prosecutor in Bologna, and a review of the evidence by a local examining magistrate, who decided to bring charges. Senna, a Brazilian and three times world champion, died on May 1, 1994, when his car crashed at the Imola track during the San Marino Grand Prix. The prosecution will

allege that Mr Williams and

others contributed to the driver's death "through negligence or fault" because the steering column had been modified to the point where it snapped as Senna took a curve at high speed. Track officials are also charged because they were responsible for all maintenance at the ground.

Lawyers for the Williams team say the steering column remained intact until the moment of impact, and that the charges are unfounded. Those Patrick Head, the Williams technical director: Adrian Newey, the teams chief de signer: Federico Bendinelli, the imola race track director; and Giorgio Poggi, a senior track official. The Imola officials also say they bear no responsibility for what

Roberto Causo, a lawyer for the Williams team, said man-Italy. The trial would be heard by a pretore, the equivalent of a local magistrate in the English legal system. His judgment will be open to

lawyers for Imola, said: "We race track bore no responsibility for what happened.

Legal experts said the charge of manslaughter has even been brought in cases where a mother accidentally suffocated her baby wile sleep ing next to it. The maximum sentence of five years is rarely judged leniently, sources said.

The trial leaves the future of Formula One in fraly in question. Flavio Briatore, the Benetton team boss, one of the most important men in the sport, said he would be unwilling to race in Italy if Williams

Questions over races, page 41

Challenger debris washes up on beach in Florida



Challenger explodes seconds after lift-off in 1986

shuttle Chalfenger washed up on the Florida shore yesterday nearly II years after it exploded, killing all seven

Nasa identified a rectangular piece of metal, 6ft by 15ft. and a smaller piece, lft by 5ft. that was found further north as being parts of the doomed

The larger piece, believed to be part of the rudder, tail or wing flap, had pieces of ther-mal tiles attached. Some of the tiles still had identification numbers on them, said Bill

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN CAPE CANAVERAL, FLORIDA

been verified. It is for sure a piece of Challenger," he said. It has been several years since any Challenger pieces have surfaced. Although Nasa regularly receives re-ports of debris, it usually turns out to be pieces of unmanned rockets or other

flotsam and jetsam. "It's uncanny," Mr Johnson said. First of all, it's a very large piece, and nothing so big has washed up in Florida before. They've washed up in

for Nasa "ft has the surf vesterday morning in further analysis. Eventually they will be buried with the Challenger exploded 73 secother reclaimed Challenger onds after lift-off on January remains - about 5,000 pieces 1986, killing Christa weighing a quarter-million McAuliffe, who was to bave pounds — in abandoned missile silos at the adjoining Cape been the first teacher in space, Jarvis, and their five crewmates. A leak in a joint on

Canaveral Air Station. The others in the Challenger crew were commander Francis "Dick" Scobee; pilot Michael Smith; Judith Resnik, the second American woman in space; Ronald McNair, the second African-American in space; and Ellison Onizuka, the first Asian-American in

White rhinos killed in Chinese bungle

A PAIR of rare white rhinoceroses died because of a bungle after the beasts were sent from the United States to a remote 200 in western China. The animals, two of about

6,000 surviving, died because of dehydration after five days in blazing heat in an open lorry. The rhinoceroses were a gift from San Diego Zoo, where officials admitted this week that the animals ought never to have left America. The beasts arrived in Shanghai in mid-July, looking

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rail wagons proved too small for their cages, a lorry was used for the 1,200-mile trip to Chengdu. On July 21, the animals died after five days on the road. The journey would have taken two days by rail.

Song Yunfang, of Chengdu Zoo, said: "Air-conditioned lorries were scarce and we thought since they were tropical animals they should have no problem with the heat. It's very regrettable but we ex-pended all possible efforts."

PRODUCT RECALL

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TESCO 6 DEEP FILLED MINCE PIES (manufacturers code 0141 only)

Tesco has identified a problem in the manufacture of

The mincemeat in a few pies has been contaminated

with small pieces of rubber. Rubber has been found in only three batches, however as a precaution, all the products detailed above have been

withdrawn from sale. Customers who have bought any of the above pies, since November 1st 1996, are requested to return it to any Tesco store. A full refund will be given or the product

replaced. Plenty of alternative supplies are available. The manufacturers, Park Cakes, have now reviewed their procedures and undertaken a full investigation. No other Tesco mince pies are affected by this withdrawal,

Tesco apologises for the inconvenience this may cause and assures its customers of our care and commitment to the highest standards of safety and quality at all Times.

The supplier code can be located on the back of the packet. It is the 0141 number on the bottom line that follows 'Tesco '96'.

> Free customer belpline 0800 505555

White House aide in \$3m book deal

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

FOR four years the Wunder-kind of the White House. George Stephanopoulos yesterday landed a publishing deal worth almost \$3 million (£1.8 million) for his personal memoir of life with President

The basis for the lead character in Primary Colors, the fictional account of the 1992 campaign, Mr Stephanopoulos has chosen Little Brown to publish what he described as his own episodic narrative of policy and politics in the White House.

After a six-day auction among publishers in New York, the deal was seen as yet another coup for the political adviser by many of his colin the American

Soon to be leaving the White House, Mr Stephanopoulos will be paid \$500,000 more than his erstwhile associate. the disgraced consultant, Dick Morris. Mr Morris, who resigned after reports of his liaison with a prostitute in Washington, is thought to have a seamier tale to tell about his dealings with the

First Family. "I feel like I won the lottery, in reverse," said Mr Stephanopoulos after be clinched the deal. "Now I have to do the work." Although he has kept no

diaries or notes and is expected to have the volume ready for publication late next year, Mr Stephanopoulos, 35, said he had a "very good memory". Since announcing his departure from the second-term

Administration, Mr Stephanopoulos, a former Rhodes scholar, has already accepted a teaching position at his New York alma mater, Columbia University, and has joined ABC News for an undisclosed sum as a political analyst. There have even been reports that he might offer unpaid assistance to the campaign of

Tony Blair in Britain. He is still having trouble selling his Washington apartment for a reported \$1.2 million and, according to an investigation by Vonity Foir, has run up \$70,000 in legal bills responding to a series of subpoenas - although charged with no criminal activity.

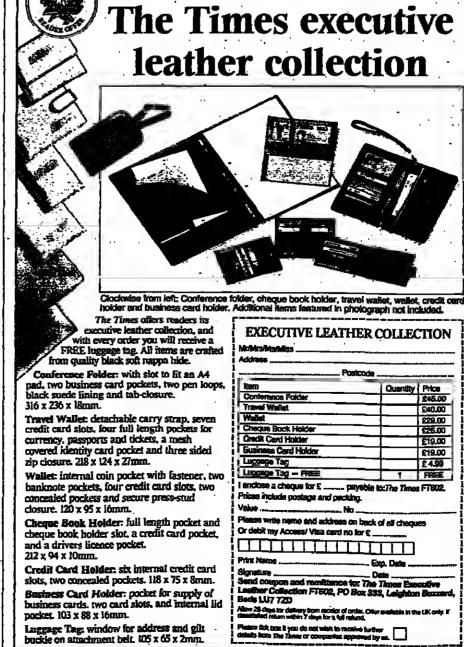
Computer in a trillion

New York: There is a new 1.000,000,000,000 calculations a second (Quentin Letts

The "trillion barrier" (trillion in the American sense) was smashed by a huge \$55 million computer part-de-signed by the US Govern-ment. The "Terallops" machine is three times niftier than the previous Japanese supercomputer champion.

Teraflops consists of a string of 7,624 ordinary desktop Intel Pentium chips placed in parallel and programmed as one. Scientists worked on the program for two years. In the time it takes a human to blink. the Oregon-based supercomputer has dispatched 40 billion calculations.

It will be used to simulate nuclear weapons tests and will assist weather forecasts, and space and medical research.



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Iliams chan er Senna use erally in Ita

Juppé rushes into print to insist he is no monster

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

from altar

FROM RICHARD OWEN

Lion of

St Mark

is stolen

ST MARK'S Basilica in Venice, once described by John Ruskin as a "trea-sure-house and confusion of delight", had one less treasure and a bit more confusion yesterday after the theft of an early 17thcentury bronze lion.

The loss has symbolic importance for Venice, whose symbol is the Lion of St Mark, usually shown bolding a book with the words, allegedly addressed to the evangelist by an angel who appeared to him in the lagoon: Pax tibi, Marce evangelista meus (Peace be with you, Mark, my evangelist).

Police said the lion, one of a pair at the foot of an altar in a side chapel, appeared to have been stolen early last Sunday morning. Its absence was not noticed until Sunday evening. Embarrassed officals at the Basilica confirmed the theft yesterday.

Some newspapers speculated that the lion which was prised off its marble pedestal with a during Mass and that worshippers either did not notice or thought the thieves were workmen.

The bronze lions were cast in 1615 by Gabriele. Orlandini. Police said their market value was "impossible to calculate". They suggested the bon had either been stolen for rivate collector or the thieves would demand a ransom for its return.

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AG WITH EVERY ORDE

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genta in in

ALAIN JUPPÉ, France's desperately unpopular Prime Minister laid bare his inner turmoil in a book published yesterday in which the un-loved, thin-skinned Prime Minister declared: "I am not a

M Juppé's cri de coeur, entitled Entre Nous (Between Ourselves) and written in the space of just four afternoons, is a strange mixture of selfpity, self-deprecation and self-justification.

Early assessments of the slim volume ranged from "honest and uplifting" to "bizarre" and "cringeworthy".
In 116 pages of large print,
M Juppé, 51, laments the way he has been portrayed as an arrogant technocrat, pleads for affection and insists that beneath his cool exterior beats

the heart of a passionate man. "I am not a monster of indifference ... I am less dry and armour-plated than the newspapers and drawing rooms reckon," he writes, noting that his political colleagues and journalists look at him "the way people look at a bullfight waiting for the bull to

"Like all men who take the front of stage, I need recognition, consideration, even affection," he proclaims. "I can make mistakes. I have already made mistakes."

One of these may have been the decision to write this book,



Juppé: wrote 116 page book in four afternoons

which was condemned by the Socialist Opposition yesterday as "a media-narcissistic operation completely removed from France's problems ... at the moment when French people are demanding that he think about them, Alain Juppé is preoccupied with himself.

Entre Nous, produced in deepest secrecy over the past six weeks, was apparently inspired by an unpleasant encounter in Bordeaux, where M Juppe is Mayor. Strolling in the city, the Prime Minister noticed a "fashionable-looking couple" walking towards him.

They look friendly. At the moment they pass, the woman starts leaping like a goat and shouting 'Die, you bloody idiott'. Pretty passer-by, I wanted to reply to you," he

"This is not a PR stunt, this is a cry from the heart," one of M Juppe's advisers said, but it is clearly part of a concerted effort to give the ailing Government a more human face at a time of deep disillusionment.

"The French people grum-ble about change, and since I am the one trying to force this change, they find it a relief to blame me for their ills," the Prime Minister writes.

M Juppé, nicknamed "the computer" for his numbercrunching approach, said during a television interview on Monday night: "I would prefer to be loved than not to be loved, but I am not com-plaining. If I said I didn't care, people would say I was indif-"It is the book of a man who

has been wounded, a little unhappy and, at the same time, quite calm," M Juppe writes. Computers have feelings, too.

Stepdaughter held: Sophie Deniau, the stepdaughter of Jacques Toubon, the French

Justice Minister, was taken into custody yesterday by police investigating the near bankruptcy of a ski resort in the French Alps. (AFP) Leading article, page 17



How Hachfeld in Le Monde sees the troubled birth of the European Union's single currency

Prodi coalition at risk as IMF tells Italy to cut budget deficit by £5bn

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

THE International Monetary Fund (1MF) yesterday warned the centre-left Gov-ernment led by Professor Romano Prodi that it will have to shave a further E5 billion off Italy's huge public deficit "as soon as possible" if it hopes to qualify for the

European single currency. The proposed 1997 budget has already led to demonstrations, and commentators have predicted further public protests in the new year if a "supplementary budget" is introduced, posing a possible threat to the Prodi administration.

An. IMF team visiting Rome said Italy would have to reform its bloated public sector and cut state support for pensions, welfare and health spending. The Government, which took office in May, has so far avoided cutting the welfare sector for fear of alienating the hard Left, on whose votes it depends in the Lower House. The centre-right Opposition, led by Silvio Berlusconi,

said the IMF message, in an end-of-year report on the Italian ecocomy, meant that the country was doomed to "stay outside Europe". Signor Prodi said, however, that the general thrust of the report had approved the Government's handling of the economy and its attempts to redoce the deficit through a combination of spending cuts and tax increases, including a highly unpopular "Euro tax".

Yesterday the Government won a series of confidence votes in the Senate on its controversial budget, which aims to cut the deficit by \$40 billion (£24 billioo), but the oppositioo parties boycotted the vote.

attacks from his own camp, government" with Signor
The Government has a with Massimo D'Alema, the Berlusconi.

comfortable majority in the Senate. The budget now renist Party of the Democratic turns to the Lower House for Left (PDS), declaring at the a final reading before the end of the year. Failure to pass it weekend that the ruling coalition - of which the PDS is the main element — had lost sight of the reforming ideals with by December 31 would force the Government to introduce provisional measures which which it was formed. "The would risk undermining Itachallenge before us should be nothing less than the transforly's fiscal credibility.

Cesare Romiti, the outspoken and powerful head of Fiat, said Italy was "going through a tragic moment" in its history, with a ruling class deficient in personalities. "Italians are beginning to realise they do not have even a crumb of hope for the future." he said. Signor Romiti added that the priority should be growth and job creation rather than a desperate attempt to qualify for European mone-

tary union. Signor Prodi also faced

leader of the former Commu-

mation of Italy," he said. Signor Prodi came to power promising to govern for five years and draw a line under Italy's postwar history of fragile "revolving door" governments. Signor Berlusconi forecast earlier this month, however, that the Government would fall in the spring. Many Italians believe that Signor D'Alema has also privately concluded that the centre-left could fall apart, and is preparing the ground for a "national unity

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nigerians sold as sex slaves

Brussels: Belgian police have smashed a major prostitution ring involving Nigerian girls brought into the country on forged papers and sold into sexual slavery. The ring also involved Italy, The Netherlands and Germany.

"We know that at least 70% girls passed through this ring." Gendarmerie Captain Bernard Libbrecht said yesterday. So far 12 people have been arrested. (Reuter)

Casinos to shut

Ankara: Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Deputy Prime Minisier, ordered casinos to be shull as part of efforts by the Islamic-led coalition to curb gambling. She said: "Casinos make families suffer." (AP)

Burma threat

Bangkok: Burma's military Government said Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi is a trailor conspiring with the West and will be de-stroyed, said an arricle in the state-run press, (AP)

Fighting spreads

Mogadishu: The battle for the Somali capital widened when milinamen led by Ali Mahdi Mohamed joined the fighting. which has killed more than 135 people and wounded 900 in five days. (AFP)

Minister jailed

Seoul: Lee Yang Ho, the disgraced former South Korean Defence Minister sacked from the Cabinet in October, was jailed for four years on charges of bribery and leaking military secrets. (Reuter)

Guerrilla killed

Algiers: Algerian security forces shot dead Brahim Kadi, alias Kaalous, a Muslim guerrilla leader sought for more than 50 murders, the Frenchlanguage daily L'Authentique said. (Reuter)

Suicide attack

Colombo: A Tamil Tiger suicide bomber killed a senior police commando near the eastern town of Karativu, police said. In a separate attack seven soldiers were killed by a landmine. (Reuter)

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Diplomats join strikes over Greek budget

Athens: Thousands of public and private-sector workers, from merchant seamen to diplomats, were out on strike yesterday in a final attempt to get the Greek Socialist Government to ease its 1997 budget - the rightest in IS years Uohn Carr writes).

The General Confederation of Labour organised a mass

rally at which people shouted anti-austerity slogans outside the gates of parliament as deputies took their seats for a

No surprises are expected in Saturday's vote, even though the Socialists led by Costas Simitis the Prime Minister have only a 12-seat majority. Merchant seamen - angry

over plans to scrap their generous tax privileges — tied up almost haif the European Union's commercial fleets in a five-day budget debate. two-day walkout that began

Diplomats are refusing to argue the country's political case abroad, because they are vexed that their entertainment allowances are to be cut.

day of a strike that has cost industry and business about £500 million.

Focus on Greece, page 31

Earber Michael Portillo, the

Defence Secretary, gave a warning that the freefall in

defence spending throughout

the alliance could undermine its ability to act. He spoke out after a Nato defence review

showed that the operation in

Bosnia had suffered from

inadequate intelligence due to

lack of money.

Mr Portillo said European

defence budgets had dropped to 1.9 per cent of GDP, of which only 14 per cent had

been spent on advanced equip-ment. This compared with

American defence spending,

equivalent to 3.6 per cent of

GDP, with 26 per cent going

The row between America

and France over command of

Nato's southern forces in Na-

ples remained unresolved.

America has refused to couo-

tenance surrendering control

☐ Beigrade: President Milo-

sevic yesterday met student

protesters marching for de-

mocracy. It was the first time

the Serbian leader has mer

protesters who have held four

weeks of rallies since opposi-

tion victories in local polls

were overturned. (AP)

of the Naples command.

on new weapons.

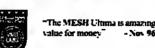
PC & TV for Xmas? ing the school Christmas holiday by at least a week, demanding higher pay rises. It's not too late! On top of that. Greece's farmers are in the twentieth

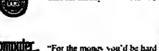
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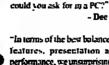
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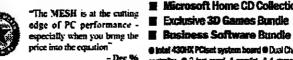


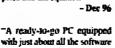




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Starter's orders for new Bosnia force

By Michael Evans, Defence correspondent

MORE than 30,000 troops. including Americans, British and Russians, were given their orders yesterday to begin Operation Joint Guard, the latest military peace mission for Bosnia-Herzegovina. Faced with another 18

months in Bosnia, the new Stabilisation Force (Sfor), which will also include troops from 17 non-Nato countries, will start officially from tomorrow, when the one-year mandate of the Implementation Force (Ifor) expires. Yesterday Nato defence ministers approved the activa-

tion order for the new force at a meeting in Brussels. Walter Slocombe, American Defence Under-Secretary for policy, said: "The force will continue to be heavily armed and it will have a full range of armoury both to protect itself and, if necessary, to act decisively against violations [of the Dayton peace accord that ended the 43-month war in Bosnia]."

The new force has no new orders to track down and detain war criminals, despite pressure from The Netherlands and Canada for more powers to arrest those indicted for war crimes.

Pilot 'given warning' THE crew of the military Dubrovnik's Cilipi airport,

aircraft that crashed near Dubrovnik on April 3 killing Ron Brown, the US Commerce Secretary, and 34 other runway. people was warned by a board's report blamed "a fail-Croatian pilot, who had just landed, to divert to Split because of appalling weather (Michael Evans writes).

The alert came as the US

Air Force CT43A aircraft was

descending on its approach to

The plane crashed 125ft below the top of a 2,300ft mountain. about 1.7 miles to the left of the Pilot magazine said the

ure of command, aircrew error and an improperly designed instrument approach procedure". Sixteen American officers were disciplined.

Jest ice iso

New Lads lead fashionable pitch invasion

Sportswear has moved off the field and into the high street, says Grace Bradberry

SPORTSWEAR is no longer just for the sports field. In the past few years, it has made significant inroads into other areas of men's lives, and has become a huge part of the

men's fashioo market. Saturday morning strolls down the high street, Sunday lunches in the pub, and the occasional long walk can now all be undertaken without embarrassment in gear that could easily see you through the entire football season. You don't even have to be fit to get away with it, although it helps to be broad-shouldered.

The rise of the New Lad, with his predilection for "bloke's clothing" has boosted the trend. Television programmes such as Fantasy Football League, presented by Nick Skinner and David Baddiel, and They Think It's All Over have also been influential. Spectator sports are now cool, and you need to have the gear. Should you make occasional forays on to the football field, then so

much the better. But once high fashion gets hold of a trend, it can trans-mute it into something you wouldn't feel happy wearing on the terraces. At one end of the spectrum, there's the sort of sportswear that doubles as clubwear. At the other, there's "blokey" sportswear — com-fortable, unpretentious, suit-able for the rugby club. This is where Timberland comes in. The company has already established itself as a favourite for boots. Men like them. They're fashionable without being trendy, and they're eminently practical. Now the American com-

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pany has launched "Timber-land Sports Series" in Britain. a collection designed to bridge the gap between the company's heavy-duty range, designed to withstand wilderness treks, and its straightforward sports-orientated

The principle behind it is guaranteed to appeal to the sort of men who recoil at an unnecessary lapei or an over-shaped shirt. What men really want, say the executives at



Spectator sports are cool



Clothes with bloke appeal

neon T-shirts and jagged patterns, but generously cut, durable clothes in strong colours. They've been designed with tennis, après-ski and the gym in mind, They're also very comfortable for slump-

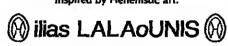
ing on the sofa.
The clothes are modelled here by Greg and Jonathan Searle, the brothers who rowed for Britain at the last two Olympic games, winning gold in Barcelona and bronze in Atlanta.

The range is priced from £25 for a T-shirt to £200 for a waterproof jacket. Jersey shorts are £40, rugby tops. £50, and polo shirts, £60.

• The Timberland store is at 125 Long Acre, London WC2



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How bare do you dare?









Following the basic code of breasts under wraps until the clock strikes eight are top, Helena Bonham Carter, left, and Linda Evangelista; bottom, Joanna Lumley, left, and Caprice

ever has the gap been wider between what most women dare to wear at parties, and what is officially chic. Designers have gone mad for diaphanous this season, and fashion groupies baring all have been making a peculiar spectacle of themselves at otherwise

Whatever you do, don't be tempted to join them, unless you have ambitions to be a designer's muse — in which case the more outré the better. Sane, intelligent women are still very careful about what they reveal at parties. Glance around any society event, and you can spot the new arrivals quite easily. They're the ones trussed up in jackets or cardigans, their eyes flitting nervously round the gathering, lighting on exposed breasts or high necklines.

Once they establish that there is plenty of uncovered flesh about the place, the cardies come off, and the wraps are allowed to fall away from the breasts.

If there's a run of parties, starting with six o'clock cocktails, and moving on via a party to a late dinner, then the anxiety is still more acute. Baring the back at 7pm could be construed as vulgar. But failure to bare it at 9pm could give an impression of frumpiness. If the hosts have gone to a lot of trouble to create high-octane glamour, then you let them down at your peril. So what degree of nakedness is acceptable. and at what time? To avoid making the llesh check every time you enter a room, the basic code is as follows: at lunch, everything must be

How much nakedness is acceptable and what can be shown when is the dilemma of the season. The Times Style Editor steers the best course between vulgar and frumpy

Grace Bradberry

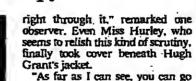
covered. At six o'clock drinks, the skirt rises and the tights become sheer. After seven it's time to reveal the arms. The breasts, however, remain under wraps until eight. As the night goes on, the décolletage reveals itself in its full glory. Current fashion lore, however,

flies in the face of this rule. Designers are in love with seethrough dresses, visible panty lines, and enormous holes where holes shouldn't be. Even supermodels can't wear it. In the latest issue of Vogue, Stella Tennant models a

turquoise bra from Agent Provocateur, but onlesses. "I bought it to wear underneath a secthrough dress but I realised pretty quickly that you can't wear those kinds of things in real life."

Not everyone takes such a sensible view. Last weekend. Liz Hurley attended a screening of

her film. Samson and Delilah, wearing a black Ungaro dress that was not only backless but also transparent. "You could see her bottom



"As far as I can see, you can go stark naked now," reflects Ewa Lewis, social editor of Tatler. "Older women in particular do seem to think bare flesh, whatever the state, is attractive to men. Essentially, however, if it looks good, then there's no code."

So while most of us adhere to a conservative convention, it can be astonishing what the beautiful people will get up to. "I've been to lunches where people have been quite dressy and boobs have been shown," says the society fixer Liz Brewer. "Last year we all wore our jackets with an uplift bra and slight

Many people, it seems, operate a sliding scale. To show serious flesh you're looking at nine o'clock, when everyone's sufficiently hazed

over," says Amanda Craig, author of Vicious Circle, a novel full of media parties. "Someone gave me an Yves Saint Laurent white shirt, with slits almost to the armpits," re wom

inkers t

says Jilly Cooper. "It's got a high neck and you can gradually undo the buttons as you go on. By dinner it's practically down to the navel." In certain circles, however, it is chic to be over

(which means under) dressed in the early evening — it indicates that you are due to appear somewhere grander. "Nowadays people are very understanding," says Ewa Lewis. "If you're going to a drinks party, then a grand ball, you'd go to the first party in a ball gown."

enerally, this means sleeveless, and sometimes backless. Camilla Leigh-Pemberton, who runs the party planners Fait Accompli, reflects that it wasn't always like this. "In winter, it always used to be the thing to wear dresses with sleeves. But that has changed. You do see people in transparent blouses over bras, and it seems in some staggering way to be sort of acceptable,"

Acceptable, perhaps, but rarely attractive. You can't blame designers for indulging in experiments. But don't suppose that every time they attempt to subvert conventional ideas of beauty they carry the entire population with them. For the foreseeable future, a flash of stocking or a glimmering collar-bone will continue to hold more allure than a visible panty line, or a drooping turquoise bra.





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Peace and contemplation: a woman "must be still as the axis of a wheel in the midst of her activities . . . a pioneer in achieving this stillness"

Are women deeper thinkers than men?

Then Aung San A new book which looks at the spiritual life of ma's Opposition party, gave the opening address in Peking last year at the international women's conference, her audience expected a stirring call for democracy or

. .

women's rights. Instead they heard a long and thoughtful speech about the nature of tolerance, the meaning of fear, and the difference between people who are capable of learning and those who are not; she thought was a more important distinction than the difference between good and evil.

Her speech was as much a philosophical treatise as a political address, centring as it did on the feminine qualities of tolerance, compassion - and the ability to learn. "I am not talking of learning in the narrow sense of acquiring an academic education," she explained, "but of learning as the process of absorbing those lessons of life that enable us to increase peace and happiness often caught up in the affairs

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between the sexes, says Magnus Linklater

women reveals some profound differences

in our world. Her long years of enforced solitude underhouse arrest had given her time and food for thought, she said; and her conclusion was that women, with their traditional role as mothers and as teachers of their own children, were far better equipped to listen and to learn than men. It was time they turned what was too often a passive virtue

into a positive asset for Daw Suu Kyi was not voicing an entirely new idea. Writing 40 years earlier, Anne Morrow Lindbergh, wife of the aviator Charles Lindbergh, suggested that women had a greater capacity for contemplation than men. They turned inwards for strength in a way that men who were so

of the outward world, rarely attain a greater understanding of themselves and the world A woman, she wrote, "must because they give more time be still as the axis of a wheel in and thought to seeking it than men. Without the male need to the midst of her activities; she must be the pioneer in achieving this stillness, not only for

men and women is to

compete for material success, for political advancement or her own salvation, but for the prestige, women have been salvation of family life, of able to concentrate instead on society, perhaps even of our a different, and perhaps a more rewarding set of priorities. As Sarah Anderson, the o accept that there are book's editor, writes in her introduction: "Because lin the inherent differences pastl women had little or no between the minds of

venture into dangerous territory. It mirrors the same prejudices that have conditioned social attitudes to women down the centuries - and still exist today. They are the attitudes that programme girls into accepting a different set of expectations and a different status from boys. "Real women in the real world are continually conditioned," wrote Germaine Greer in The Female Eunueh. "Because the difference is so wholeheartedly believed in, it is also experienced." At its extreme, it may be the unforgiving view of Pythagoras: There is a good principle which created order, light and man, and an evil principle which created chaos, darkness and women." It can justify the repressive attitudes of fundamentalist religions. and even in its mildest form it may influence the form teacher who automatically assigns the girls to "environmental studies" and the boys to engi-

neering. A new book which looks at the spiritual life of women down the ages sidesteps this male/female argument, and instead explores the way women have dealt with their inner life. In doing so, it reveals some profound differences in their approach. Women, it suggests, often

Paying over £250 for Car insurance? serviceline

Virginia Woolf sition of an inner strength, a self reliance, and increased spirituality. Sometimes their conclusions are deceptively simple, like that of Katharine Anne Porter, the American writer. who nearly died of influenza in the First World War, and experienced what she called the happy vision just before death". That convinced her that for most of her life she had made the mistake of trying to

live like other people. "It took

me a long time to realise that

that simply wasn't true, that I

opportunity for outward activ-

ities, these very limitations forced them to look inward, an

activity which led to the acqui-

had my own needs and that I had to live like me." The poer Kathleen Raine, echoing Blake, says that "improvement comes from without genius summons from within ... what we are worth is not what we have, not even what we have made or done. but what we are." Jane Hamilton, a modern novelist, writes similarly: "... for me God was something within that allowed me, occasionally, to see". Sometimes they strive toshe got from piecing together an explanation of these mo-ments of shock: "From this l

occasionally into a realisation

of what lies behind "the cotton

wool of daily life".

She talked of the pleasure reach what I might call a philosophy... that we are parts of the work of art. Hamlet or a Beethoven quartet is the truth about this vast mass we call the world.

"But there is no Shakespeare, there is no Beethoven: certainly and emphatically there is no God; we are the words: we are the music; we are the thing itself."

Some themes emerge emotion as inseparable from thought, for instance. George Sand wrote: "The best visible effects emerge only from emotion, and emotion comes only from conviction. No one is ever loved by something he doesn't ardently believe in." Simone Weil said: "A poem

is beautiful to the precise degree in which the anention whilst it was being composed has been turned towards the inexpressible." And Isadora Duncan ex-

pressed the same thoughts about her own passion in life - dance: "I believe that in each life there is a spiritual line, an upward curve, and all that adheres to and strength-ens this line is our real life the rest is but as chaff falling from us as our souls

One subject, however, is notable for its scarcity - men-In an age obsessed by "relationships" it may come as something of a shock to find that women consider there may occasionally be more interesting things to explore than the opposite sex. Love, of course, makes regular appearances, but mainly as a route to higher things.

o when Henriene d'Angeville, a French mountaineer, writes, "My heart beat furiously, my breathing was impeded, and deep sighs burst from my breast," she is actually talking about her first sight of the top of Mont Blanc.

Whether this book reveals women as deeper thinkers than men, or simply that they take more interest in the affairs of the soul is less relevant than the light it sheds on a dimension of their lives we do not hear much about Perhaps it is simply, as Germaine Greer once wrote, part of the "continuing dialogue between the wondering woman and the world.

wards something more cos-◆The Virago Book of Spirituality, edited by Sarah Anderson (Virago mic, like Virginia Woolf, writing about the "exceptional moments" which shock us Fress 16.99)

Compliments to our chefs may be premature

The proof of the British pudding

flattering. It would be unnatural not to be a bit pleased when the president of the Epicurean World Master Chefs' Society, and a Frenchman to boot, has apparently hailed Britain as the gastronomic centre of the world. And this isn't a compliment from just anyone, yoo know, Monsieur le Président is an eminent chef, one Jean Conil, who served his apprenticeship with Auguste Escoffier. It's rather like having a person who did a training analysis with Freud praising someone's psychoanalytic technique.

But I can't imagine these words have made M Conil exactly a bero in his own country, where French colinary supremacy is an article of faith. It's not as if he was happy to leave it at praising the Brits - he came. 100, 10 bory the French. We have people like Marco Pierre White and Gary Rhodes to thank for our new-found culinary eminence, M Conil concludes, whereas

French chefs are finished". I wrote in this paper some weeks ago about the demise of good food in France, so I can see what M Conil is setting at And, up to a point, I agree. But be wildly, wildly exaggerates. Even Marco Pierre White appears embarrassed by the exuberance of this official flattery. Not someone known for his modesty (nor should he be, someone with that talent) he has respond-ed honestly. "I don't believe we serve the best food in the world," he said (he's right, we don't), adding that nice though it may be to be praised and recognised "we do have to be realistie".

The thing is, I'm not sure anyone wants us to be realistic. It's not enough that we have to have the best pop

stars and the best models, we now live in a fantasy world in which we have the best food. The reality is rather different, Of course things are immeasurably better than they once were - 40 years ago people had to go to Timothy Whites for olive oil and to Soho for pasta - but just because we now have Sainsbury's Special Selection and a whole battery of superchefs doesn't mean we're living in "gastroheaven"

We confuse a number of things in our keenness to trumpet our own gastronomic ascendancy. In the first instance, we confuse London with Britain. It is now relatively easy to eat well in London, but - and I don't care impossible to eat well out of it.

Restaurants are the most obvious area of difference. Good restaurants in the country lend to be of the squarty-scripted, countr house variety, boasting a menu stuffed with too many adjectives and too many ingredients; elsewhere in can be all but inedible. I am not saying you can never eat well outside London, of course you can; and to show my regionally correct sincerity I declare I'm desperate to visit Niek Nairn's Braeval in the back of the Hibernian beyond. Generally, however, culinary prospects are dismal out of central London. (I once tried to get a cheese sandwich in Somerset. There I was, driving around the county where cheddar is made and all I could get were damp squares of pappy white bread smeared with marge and tasteless plastic eheese.)

This first, pre-eminent, confusion leads me to the second. We confuse the particular few with the general many. That is to say,

Marco Pierre White and Gary Rhodes (I'd throw in Gordon Ramsay and Alastair Little while we are counting home-grown blessings, and there are a few more too) we presume the general level of cooking in this country to be higher than it is. It is undoubtedly the case that we have very many good restaurants and that there is a ng number of homes in which food and cooking are reckoned important, but it is just as true that we consume an ever-increas number of microwave meals and dinners.

bought from the chill-cook cabinet. I don't doubt is that there is an enormous interest in food now in this country. What I question is how much of society this interest permeates or, indeed, how far, culinarily speaking, this interest takes us. You don't measure a nation's culinary health by judging its professional kitchens, but by

looking at how ordinary people eat at home. France may have earned its gastronomic reputation by its Michelin-starred restaurants, but the heart of its cuisine is learnt at Maman's, or Grand-

maman's knee. And if there is a decline in restaurants in France it is not so much, as M Conil, sadly declares, that the great chefs can't afford the ingredients that would do justice to their talents (we do know, after all, about bad workmen and so forth) but that sons and daughters won't work for nothing in their more, so those cheap but extraordinarily good family establishments are going by the board, it is that culture

that is dying out.
Food and cooking have improved here, but it is still the case that the produce is very much better in, say, France or Italy. I am not talking about luxury comestibles (everything is available everywhere now) but about everyday fruit and veg. What is more, people are not really prepared to pay for food to be better. I'm not talking about people who can't afford more, but those who could. When I interviewed that passionate fishmonger Steve Hatt some years back, he told me that so much of our best fish went abroad because no one here would pay what it costs in the shops. And all the time, independent butchers are going out of business because people would rather buy plastic-wrapped, fat-trimmed, tasteless meat from the supermarket. Good produce Isn't cheap — but you can't eat well unless you gel good raw ingredients and that is the end of it.

T aving read M Conil's comments a little more closely. I see that money is, in some part, the motivation behind them, too. It is so hard to make a living out of cooking well that it is hardly surpising if most chefs are obsessed with making money, when so few of them ever will. Anton Mosimann once wrote movingly of his horror at the widow of a great chef having lo sell his knives to survive. So it is to be expected that M Conil's real admiration lies in the entrepreneurial flair of the British chef. He notes how many make money and, more, how many become millionaires.

I don't want to be a party-pooper and praise is of course gratifying, but we should not allow ourselves to be patronised into a state of such unjustified complacency.

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Nigella Lawson



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Alan Coren



■ Can I take out a contract on **Martin Amis?**

ortified? Yes, a little, how could l not be, I am only flesh and blood, but it is professional flesh and blood, and its mortification is thus mitigated, willy-nilly, by that gobsmacked admiration which mere toilers in the vineyard cannot but feel for a master vintner.

t refer, of course, to the latest coup de foudre by Martin Amis, who, just when we thought all the bets were down, the laurels browed, the medals struck, the t's crossed and the i's dotted on another year of major literary achievement, has once again sprung into the lists at the very last moment of the eleventh hour and shot straight to the top of the 1996 honours board with a masterpiece of contracting so original, so daring, so brilliant, as to leave all others at the post. Unquestionably, his new million-plus four-book deal with Jonathan Cape is the contract for this Christmas: I have spoken to almost every serious bibliophile in the country, to publishers, agents, PR men, financial managers, lawyers, marketing advisers, distributors, franchisers, independent film and TV producers, personal fitness consultants, and their consensus is total — if you were going to curl up with just one contract this Christmas, Martin's was the one to curl up with. Though each interviewee had already nominated his Literary Achievement of the Year - some had plumped for Nick Leeson's beautifully constructed deal with Little Brown, others had chosen Joan Collins's superb Random House courtroom drama, several had once again been bowled over by the range and inventiveness of Delia Smith's adroit mix of tiein and spin-off, and not a few had been forced to admire the sheer in-your-face chutzpah that the Duchess of York had managed to introduce into some of her sub-clauses all now conceded that the knee had to be bowed before the creative genius of Mr Amis in getting himself out of a mere half-million two-book contract with HarperCollins and into a one-million four-book contract with Cape, notwithstanding the failure of the first book of the first contract to recoup its advance. It has confirmed his status as this country's most innovative negotiator. It has made him the envy of all. Certainly of me. I had a contract out this

Christmas, but, despite the fact that it was my 32nd, it stirred no interest at all. What am I doing wrong? Everything. I have just read it again, and it is as dead as a cliche. Its advance is so modest as to make nobody jealous, and, thanks to recouping that advance. it has made nobody angry, either. It does not have a single controversial clause — insisting, for example, that the party of the first part, hereinafter referred to as The Author, mini-series The Work may generate or refuses under pain of prosecution to identify any royal personage or serial axe-murderer portrayed in said Work — and the closest it gets to originality appears to be a scribbled jotting replacing a line of small print to the effect that, after 1997, the publisher washes his hands of any responsibility as to whether the new proprietors of Hong Kong will bonour international copyright agreements. I suppose I could have stormed into my publisher's office and kicked up a fuss about that, but I beg leave to doubt that the row would have made the headlines.

But I shall know better next year. Around June, I shall put together a crack team of topflight literary agents, intellectual property lawyers, international accountants and other literary grandees, who will work day and night on the plot of my latest contract, a work of such depth, breadth, subtlety, character and mould-breaking brilliance as to whet the bibliophiliac appetite to distraction. Tantalising snippets of the work in progress will leak into the world's press, a gobbet con-cerning a billion-Deutschemark deal with BMW here, a hint of Mossad involvement there, rumours of the peerage I require before starting volume three, snapshots of the Van Gogh I require before finishing volume four: early drafts will be stolen, repudiated. lingated over, until, finally, just before Christmas, the finished work will be ready. Whereupon a special signed edition of 500 morocco bound contracts, a hardback print of 100,000, and a million paperbacks will simultaneously be published, to the unbridled joy of all who care about good books.



Hero of the last horizon

o man was so easy to debunk as Laurens van der Post. In 1987 he took the Prince of Wales on a proto-Jungian safari in the Kalahari Desert. They communed with the collective unconscious. They were said to have discussed the oneness of humankind, the bridge of faiths and the decay of urban society. A native hunter had once told van der Post that "should the whole human species vanish from the planet tomorrow, there would not be a plant, bird, insect or animal that would not breathe a sigh of relief". It was a seminal moment, the prince and the guru glorying in the unverifiable.

Van der Post, who died two days ago. was a delightful, egotistical romantic who craved membership of King Arthur's Round Table. Like many immigrants, he was a fanatical patriot. And as with many who are cursed to live in drew from him great strengths and some weaknesses. He saw no point in dwelling on the weaknesses. "Egos have an honourable role in life," he said. As the chrysalis of the soldier-journalist fell away, the world took possession of a fully-fledged mystic. He was God's gift to British cynicism.

I met Laurens van der Post only once. He was pressing, among other things, the claims of Chief Buthelezi to the leadership of South Africa. A friend asked me afterwards the standard guru question: "Were you for or against?" It was a question I could not readily answer. Van der Post seemed true to his image, a charismade man whose life had been a sequence of experiences and

thoughts not always in the right order. He had survived the war in a theatre, Java, that lent itself to his leadership qualides. I believe his most vivid contribution to the legacy of war was not his oft-recounted bravery (glamourised in David Bowie's Happy Christmas Mr Lawrence) but his awareness of the need for forgiveness. He talked and wrote constantly of the meaninglessness of harred, the necessity of living with a new Japan. Those who have never fought a war, who forget how repellent an enemy Japan appeared at the time, may not realise the boldness of van der Post's stance. He affirmed a common humanity which later charges of fantasy and

boastfulness cannot dim. This was a convendonal tale of a war hero and conciliator. Van der Post's life took a more eccentric turn. It was that of

Most gurus are frauds or fanatics, but Laurens van der Post was the real thing

the classic guru, noted by Anthony Storr in his book on the genre, Feet of Clay. A trauconfrontation with death was followed by a retreat into the wilderness. Van der Post went from Java to the desert, where he relates that a kudu at a

waterhole revived memories not just of his own childhood but of the childhood of man. "My God, I am back home," he cried. He was like Crusoe confronting Man Friday's footprint. He returned to civilisation to warn it of impending bombsite and asserted that salvation lay in the rhythms of nature, fixed in the memory of the Bushmen but lost from that of London.

Van der Post enjoyed all Storr's qualifications for gurudom, including magnetic charm. He had long blond hair, blue eyes and a strong nose. He talked softly and well. His egotism was untamed by the need to immerse himself in any group. Van der Post's idols, Mountbatten. Jung. Churchill, de Gaulle, Thatcher, were treated as uncritically as many appeared to treat him. His intellectual self-confidence was unsullied by formal education. His assertions on history, conservation and anthropology were naive and had no academic foundation. His relentless dualism - East and West, masculine and feminine, great memory and small memory, country and city - was devoid of rigour. As for Java, as Ian Buruma pointed out when reviewing van der Post's memoir of his time there, it was ludicrous to treat all Dutch as villains

and all British as heroes. Yet no sceptic wins an argument with a guru. The latter smiles sweedy and replies, "I know: you don't." About Africa. van der Post did know. He may have encountered no more than a handful of real Bushmen, but these yellow-skinned, pot-bellied people were for him a metaphor. After the wilderness and the vision, came the message. His message, of the noble savage and salvation through nature, has sold well since Defoe. It sells particularly well today.

Nature is good and cities are evil. All gurus advise their followers to avoid them. Urban living, said van der Post, was like war. It denies the Jungian collective conscious-ness. It detaches us

from our dependence on nature. It snaps the twig from the twisted tree of humanity. This view brooks no argument, Gurus do not invite discussion, only an audience. But that does not necessarily nullify their message. Yesterday I'reread the opening three chapters of The Lost World of the Kalahari. It is a brilliant account of the damnation of innocence. The book does not romanticise the Bushmen, it merely recounts one man's

obsession with their story. Van der Post was fascinated by a people living at the limit of human evolution. The Bushmen could fill their small bodies with sustenance like camels and run for days. Their flat-topped buttocks were huge with stored fat, their penises always erect, their eyes Mongoloid, their yellow skin impervious to the hottest sun on earth. A Bushman could



Laurens Van der Post

detect water from 20 miles by reading moisture in the sky. He danced and recorded his daily round on painted rocks, instilling in van der Post "an almost unbearable nostalgia for the vanished painter and for the spirit that possessed him". Here was a voice from the beginnings of man. It is impossible not to be moved.

Just as van der Post had pleaded with

his contemporaries to understand and tolerate the Japanese after the war, so he pleaded for tolerance towards these Stone Age people. Of course their case was hopeless. They had adapted to the harshest environment of necessity. Like the primitive tribes of Borneo and Amazonia, nothing could save them from eventual assimilation and extinction. Their click-language flashed from their lips "like a sparkle of sun on a burst of flower", but it would die along with their habits and skills. Meanwhile we too are city life. We may not be able to run a hundred miles or extract snake venom to daub spears, yet our survival look's more assured than that of the Bushmen.

an der Post seemed to recoil from this thought. But he did not just idealise the Bushmen; he used them to champion the diversity of human beings and the fragility of their dependence on nature. He lead the movement to record, understand and, when they wish for it, protect endangered peoples. This was not nos-talgic paternalism. Van der Post's exegesis of the Bushman way of life was based on his belief that we must retain some practical reladonship with the past if we are not to fall victim to the future. He believed in history. He warned constantly against "a society which has lost its memory". The warning applies as much to the built environment as to the natural, to what he termed our small memories of yesterday, as well as our great ones of the Stone Age.

By insisting that we tolerate the diversity of human groups, van der Post felt he was guarding human universality. As a South African he was a passionate pluralist. In some hands, the message might be banal. In his it was exhilarating. He opened The Lost World of the Kalahari with a quotation from Roy Campbell: "Pass World! I am the dreamer that remains. / The man clear cut against the last horizon." Laurens van der Post was that dreamer. He never lost sight of the horizon.

subversive idea

School takeovers let

parents choose, says

Robert Skidelsky

s one who has tried, and so far A failed, to persuade the Conserva-tives to take parental choice seriously, I was fascinated by Tony Blair's speech on education at Ruskin College Oxford last Monday. Much of it was orthodox Labour Party stuff was orthodox Labour Party stuff —
"greater powers for local authorities",
"unprovement plans" with "targets" and
"clear criteria", "expert advice and
intensive support", and so on. But in the
middle of this dismal list was a discordant, and subversive thought: head
teachers of successful schools should be allowed to take over the leadership of

Stated thus, it is a gimmick, and I am surprised that Mr Blair introduced it in this unpersuasive way. The important thing is to reproduce a successful school. not have a successful head teacher running several schools. This is best done by allowing a successful school (or possibly an educational trust from the private sector) to take over a failing school and appoint a new leadership team committed to effective school practices. If anything survives of Mr Blair's proposal under a Labour govern-ment, it will be in this form, rather than

in his original version. Nevertheless, his idea is subversive because it suggests a mechanism for reproducing successful schools which does not depend on ever-increasing bureaucratic control over the school system. It is clearly modelled on business practice. Firms compete for custom. A successful firm increases market share; other firms learn from its example. It forms partnerships: it acquires and reconstructs failing firms. It is through this mixture of competition and co-operation that success is "reproduced" in business life, not by a flood of injunctions and regulations.

A regulatory framework is as necessary in education as in business. But it is a profound mistake to believe that it is through regulation that the heights are scaled. The importance of Mr Blair's subversive idea lies precisely in this recognition. It breaks free from the strategy of trying to force schools to raise their standards by strangling them with

hat does all this have to do with parental choice? For an answer we must turn to to-day's Audit Commission report, entitled Planning and Supply of School Places and Parent Satisfaction. The report argues that parents are being allowed little genuine choice when it comes to their children's education; 20 per cent of children are not able to attend their "first choice" school, and there is a low level of satisfaction with the choices parents are allowed to make. These conclusions are not surprising. If choice is to be real, popular schools must be allowed to expand. If they are not, two things are bound to happen; the oversubscribed schools will become increasingly selective; and a proportion of children will be allocated to undersubscribed schools, This is what has happened.

The Department for Education has always argued that "good" schools cannot be allowed to expand while there are "surplus places" in other schools. No doubt there are too many school places in aggregate, due to demographic changes - though any system of choice requires some slack. But surplos places overall are not the main problem. More important is the fact there are too many places in unpopular schools, and too few in popular ones.

This is where Mr Blair's subversive idea comes into its own. Popular schools should be allowed to expand by taking over unpopular ones, guaranteeing parents the quality of education they are looking for. A school is not the same as its buildings. To eliminate surplus places one does not always have to close down buildings - just make unpopular schools popular.

The Audit Commission is right to say that the education system is in gridlock because opted-out, or grant-maintained, schools are no longer part of LEA planning systems. They are set to become the new generation of selective schools. The answer is not to reincorporate them into the planning system (Labour's tradicional idea) but to free local authority schools to match supply to demand (the kernel of Mr Blair's subversive idea). Provided there are enough popular places which is a function of both the oumber of places and the number of successful schools - the state system cannot be unduly selective, any more than the independent sector is. In other words, there should be a rough balance between the supply of places offered and the number of places parents want to take up. This is true of the independent sector

overall; it is not true of the state system. The weakness of John Major's Conservatism has always been its hostility to ideas. Now it has run out of ideas entirely. In education it has never had anything one could call a strategy. It has never made up its mind whether it wants a system based on parental choice or one controlled from the centre. No more than tit-for-tat can be expected of Mrs Gillian Shephard in the dying days of this Government. Yet it is all a great pity - because a system of parental choice fits much more naturally into Conservative than into Labour thinking. It might have been the Conservative Party's "big idea". For the time being, we shall have to see what Labour makes of Mr Blair's subversive idea.

 $P \cdot H \cdot S$ The author takes the Conservative in the House of Lords. The author takes the Conservative whip

Love again

WINTER in Rome and the setting is fair for the renewal of one of Europe's great unrequited love affairs: between Prince Albert of Monaco and the model Claudia Schiffer. Neither was ever likely to score heavily for their pub quiz team, but for a while they seemed perfect together. Their friendship mirrored that between Prince Rainier and Grace Kelly. Albert's

Then they were separated while the short, hairy American magician, David Copperfield, entered then left Miss Schiffer's life with



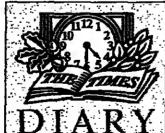
Claudia and Albert on again?

his card-tricks and baubles Today, however, Prince Albert visits Rome and the Vatican with his father to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the Grimaldi dynasty. Miss Schiffer is also in Iown. The Italian press are gurgling with anticipation, as it is widely expected that she will be Albert's date at a gala dinner today.

Absent from the Grimaldi party vill be the Princesses Caroline and Stephanie, who have had an uneasy reladonship with the Vatican on account of their colourful personal lives. As the Monegasque Embassy in London explained, "they just did not want to go."

Choc-a-bloc THERE is more to the success of Ferrero Rocher chocolates than those terrific "at the ambassador's parties" television commercials. Unceasing prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes by the Ferrero family has ensured that their chocolates have crept up alongside fir trees, walnuts and woolly-scarved wassailers in British Christmas tradicion. This, at least, was the explanation offered by the head of the family,

Michele Ferrero, at the party for

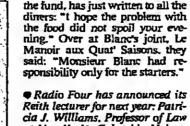


the 50th anniversary of his company. The role of "the ambassa-dor" at the bash was intriguingly filled by Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, Warden of St Antony's College, Oxford.

Rare indeed

APOLOGIES have gone out on behalf of two of the country's leading chefs, for making a mess of the World Jewish Relief Fund dimner earlier this month. The fund had hired Raymond Blanc and Albert Roux to cater for 400 at the Imperial War Museum. A kosher chef was on hand, but when the lamb came out, horreur! - it was too pink and had to be sent back. The two chefs appeared on the podium to apologise, and over the sound of heckling promised, "next time the

lamb will be medium". Ashley Mitchell, chairman of



at New York's Columbia University. She will be talking about race. Among her qualifications is the fact that she is the "great-great granddaughter of a slave and a white Southern lawyer". At



"Why does she still call me Brian? Can't she see I've had a sex change"



the bostom of the release about the BBC's intellectual jewel, we are informed that The first Reith Lectures were given in 1948 by Ber-tram Russell.

Telling all



Christmas cards from the Clarkes and from the Hart

cles," reads the card, "Lloyd George responded: Well 1 find good as a vacation."

CHRISTMAS CARDS arrive from the Left and Right of the Tory party. Ken Clarke and his wife Gillian have chosen an impish drawing of David Lloyd George, the famously independent-minded Chancellor and Prime Minister. Inside are a few anecdotes about Lloyd-George which may relate to Clarke's own recent party troubles. "On being asked how he maintained his cheerfulness when beset by oumerous political obsta-

that a change of nuisances is as David Hart, wealthy consiglière to Michael Portillo and the Tory Right, goes for the devil eyes motif.

Inside is the caption: "Old adviser, New Danger". Today Jack Straw addresses the Institute of Public Policy Re-

search, the Labour think-tank. Tickets to hear him cost £45. Last week, Gordon Brown and David Blunkett spoke there. Tickets cost between £170 and £300. "No reflection at all on their comparative worth," pleads the institute.

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* Tomerlei

THEITIMES

WHIPPED SENSELESS

A stupid piece of double-dealing does yet more damage

Say it quietly: Saunders deserves his human rights

Guinness takeover of Distillers encap... Adherence to principle need not frustrate

ENTRE NOUS

My country does not understand me

All is not fair in love and politics. Whatever the state of the Government's majority, and however close the general election, there are some levels to which no whip should stoop. David Willetts's overzealous attempt to nobble the chairman of a procedural committee pales as a sin beside Monday night's fiddling of a Commons vote.

Last night this blatant deceit tested the

usually seamless skills of the Secretary of State for Rebuttals, Michael Heseltine. Visibly floundering, he could find no words. to defend the behaviour of the Conservative whip. Derek Conway, who had paired three Tory MPs with a Labour and Liberal Democrat each, thus ensuring that two Opposition MPs would be absent for every Member away on his side. Had the Ulster Unionists voted the other way on Monday's fishing motion, this chicanery would have turned a defeat for the Government into a one-vote victory.

That must have been the intended ontcome, since the arrangements were made long before the whips knew whether to expect support from the Unionists. The Government's recent attempt to prevent a debate on the single currency regulations showed how terrified party managers have become of losing-Commons votes. But to resort to cheating of such a kind can only be self-destructive.

Coming so soon after the revival of sleaze in the public mind; it merely reinforces the image of an administration that is prepared to put morality aside if it proves inconvenient. Even the more cynical of Conser-

The martyr's robe sits uncomfortably on

Ernest Saunders's surprisingly robust frame. The former Guinness chairman,

having put his dotage successfully behind

him, yesterday secured satisfaction of sorts

in Strasbourg. The European Court of

fraid was a violation of his human rights.

The Court denied him a payment in

compensation, however, arguing that vindication in law should be enough.

It will be galling to many to see Mr-Saunders proclaim himself a victim of

injustice. The deception involved in the

sulated some of the least attractive of old and

new City practices in the Eighties. But,"

the Strasbourg judges are right and Mr.

Saunders's rights have been infringed. The

Mr Saunders was convicted by a court

which heard evidence obtained under

duress. That evidence was extracted by the

Department of Trade and Industry while

investigating the Distillers takeover in 1987.

The DTI. as a regulatory body rather than a.

criminal prosecutor, has the power to

compel an individual to answer. The

evidence gathered in this way was then-

passed on to the police and led to a criminal

prosecution. Mr Saunders believes this

evidence prejudiced his case. The Govern-.

ment argues that he would have been

convicted even without it. Whoever is correct

about the importance of the evidence there

should be no doubt that it was wrong to

It is sometimes appropriate for certain

agencies to gather evidence which will be

used to enforce regulatory powers, or aid

further criminal investigation, but which cannot in itself be directly admitted in the

course of criminal prosecution. A body such

as the DTI is entitled to use exceptional

powers when investigating, for example, the

circumstances of a takeover or whether an

individual is fit to be a company director.

Different standards, however, should apply

Alain Juppe's passionate cri from a

wounded coeur must rank as one of the most

bizarre pleas of postwar politics, the living

exemplar of the heat-sensitive person who,

Harry Truman believed, should best get out

of the kitchen. The French Prime Minister

believes he is a maligned and misunder-

stood man - a passionate, sensitive soul

who wants only to be liked and trusted but

who is unfairly portrayed as a desiccated

calculating machine. So pained is this

cultured intellectual that he has revealed his

torment in 116 pages of exquisitely refined

self pity. "I am not a monster of indif-ference," he tells his readers. He is less

armour-plated than those arbiters of haute

société, the newspapers and Parisian salons,

maintain. Even he, unlike a computer, can

Wearing your hearf on the sleeve of a slim

volume has an honourable history in

Trance. From Heloise and Abelard to

Gerard de Nerval and Verlaine, those

pierced by the arrows of love or fate have let

their readers into their suffering. And most

have made a fine profit from it. M Juppe be-

lieves that he, too, can share his hidden hurt

with an intimate audience of 57 million

French citizens and has coyly entitled his

ocuvre, wrung from him during four Sun-

day afternoons of literary labour, Entre

make mistakes.

reveal it in criminal proceedings.

test of a justice system is its ability to apply

the dignity of due process to all.

uncomfortable though it may be to accept,

Human Rights ruled that his conviction for

vatives were aghast at the trick, since it was almost bound to be exposed. Sure enough, after the unexpectedly large margin of victory on Monday, opposition whips conducted a post mortem. Once the figures failed to tally, Labour and Liberal Democrats consulted and the truth was out.

Not only will this imbroglio tarnish the Tories' reputation and sap morale on their benches; it has also given the opposition parties the pretext that they needed to make life even harder for the Government when Parliament returns in the New Year. Tony Blair has been tempted for some time to withdraw co-operation in the Commons in order to harry an already tense party. He needed an excuse. Now he has one.

With hindsight, Mr Conway's deception was not necessary, as the Unionists voted with the Government anyway. But even with foresight, it was an appalling mistake. Had the Conservatives again lost the fisheries vote, they might have made it look like a traditional December event, as predictable as it was insignificant for policy. Then Mr Blair would have had his bluff called. Either he would have had to hold a vote of confidence which he would almost certainly have lost, or he would have risked looking as if he were running scared.

Instead it is the Tories who are afraid of holding an undoctored vote on a controversial issue. Labour must be delighted by how little it needs to do to expose the weaknesses in John Major's party. Merely standing back and watching the Conservatives selfdestruct seems to do the trick.

in a criminal prosecution. The right to silence has been abused by criminals and

the Home Secretary's decision to allow the

courts to draw an inference from silence is

an understandable revision of the rules of

evidence. It is, however, a wholly different

thing to admit evidence wrung from an

individual denied the chance to say nothing

rather than allowing his silence to influence

a court's judgment. It offends against Article

Six of the European Convention on Human

Rights and, more importantly, against the

Common Law principle that a defendant

should not be forced to incriminate himself.

the proper investigation of fraud or other

offences. Under the 1985 Interception of

Communications Act, evidence gathered

from a wire tap is inadmissible in court; but

the information thus acquired can be

valuable background which makes it easier

for the police to secure the admissible

evidence they need. Similarly the Serious

Fraud Office's Section Two powers allow it

to acquire information which helps in the

preparation of a prosecution case, even if it is

not directly admissible. It is a commonplace

of all detection that words which may not be

used in court can nevertheless lead to the

Government and Opposition pause for

thought as they consider the Police Bill,

currently going through Parliament. If evidence secured by forced answers offends

against human rights, how much more

offensive are plans which would allow the

police to acquire evidence by forced entry or

bugging on the strength of a chief police

officer's judgment? Such powers may be

appropriate when dealing with terrorism

but should not be placed so easily at the

British citizens should have their rights

upheld in British courts and, more impor-

tantly, by the British Parliament. If neither

can assert itself appropriately, many in-dividuals more deserving than Mr Saunders

will embarrass Britain by seeking redress

all to the good. Maybe the French, whose

upper lips curl in grief, laughter or disdain

more easily than those of many nations, will

be indulgent to their suffering Prime

Minister, if so, the diatribe inspired by the

contempt of a pretty woman on a Bordeaux

It is hard to see the tactic working on this

side of the Channel. Would a John Major

apologia - My Not Inconsiderable Achieve-

ment - tell us of his pain at being coloured

grey, his love of cricket, humiliation at

questions about O-levels and the agonies he

suffers at not ruling out economic and

monetary union? And would it boost his poll

British politicians do venture into print,

and rather more often than voters would

like. Their confessions, however, rarely lift

the lid on their tortured souls, or indeed on

anything. The titles usually give away the

content-free contents; Ministers Decide by

Sir Norman Fowler is often seen as the

classic in the genre. Few British Prime

Ministers sit down at the word processor

until the cares of office have been shed. Even

those who were subjected to calumny and

lampooning have told us little of how they

felt: Sir Alec Douglas-Home wrote about

fishing, Eden about his father and Churchill

gave us history books. M Juppe comes from

a different, confessional tradition. But for all

his personal pleading, he may find his countrymen a nation of literary ingrais.

street will have paid off.

ratings?

disposal of every chief constable.

The Strasbourg judgment should also give

crucial information that convicts.

bers of their families. **ADMISSIBLE EVIDENCE** Yours faithfully,

From Mr David Knight

Sir, Given that a mere 5 per cent of the world's estimated 250 million working children are employed (if that is the right word) in export industries, and that unforeseen consequences of past trade sanctions have included child factory workers being forced into prostitution to replace their income, your suggestion that opposition to ex-ploitative child labour is not an appropriate task for the World Trade Or-

do nothing."

Yours sincerely, DAVID KNIGHT, Higher Trewoofe. December 11.

From Ms Christine Whitehead

Sir, It is wrong to use Third World concerns about linking labour conditions to trade agreements as an excuse

the WTO would not be a cover for pro-tectionism. The only protection this move would supply would be for the basic rights of substantial members of

aim to protect the basic rights of worksure that governments keep to these do not. The WTO can supply these teeth, with the threat of sanctions as a very last resort, while the ILO -which represents workers, employers and governments both in the north and south - would oversee the implementation of such a clause. This

strongest economic powers.

A social clause is not about setting wage levels. Rather it would give workers the right to freedom of associ-ation and collective bargaining, empowering them to negotiate their own wage levels and decent conditions, whilst fully aware of the need not to frighten away investors.

Yours sincerely. C. E. WHITEHEAD (Senior Policy Advisor). Oxfam UK & Ireland. 274 Banbury Road, Oxford. December 10.

Fully furnished

It's just a thought. EDWARD THOMAS,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Child labour and trade agreements

From Mr Bill Linton

Sir, Your leading article today, "Traded away", is dismissive of the World Trade Organisation's obligation to oppose "exploitative" child labour, which you suggest is more appropriate to the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

Of course it is true that in many cases either poor children work or they and their families starve, but that merely means that the solutions have to be a bit less simplistic than just boycotting goods produced by child labour. Export industries only account for about 5 per cent of the problem

It so happens that this very issue is It so happens that this very issue is addressed by Unicef in its report, published today, State of the World's Children 1997. This report advocates a three-pronged attack on child labour: releasing children immediately from the most damaging situations, eg, prostitution and bonded labour; the rehabilitation of children released from work, especially by education. from work, especially by education; and the protection of children who cannot be released.

The right way to go about it is illustrated by an agreement reached last year in Bangladesh between Unicef, the ILO and the Bangladeshi garment manufacturers, under which all child-ren under 14 are removed from factories and placed in schools, with a stipend as compensation for loss of income. The agreement stipulates that no further children will be hired and that the jobs previously done by child-ren are offered to suitable aduh mem-

BILL LINTON, 39a Fox Lane, Palmers Green, N13. December 11.

ganisation is possibly right.

On the other hand, I have just heard on Radio 4 that the Metropolitan Police are to be issued with a confidential corruption hottine card, inscribed for evil to flourish is for good men to

Lamorna, Penzance, Cornwall.

not to consider implementing a social clause through the World Trade Or-ganisation (WTO).

Whilst Third World anxieties are understandable, if such a clause is implemented in the way advocated by Oxfam and many other concerned organisations, its introduction through

the world's poor. For decades now governments have signed up to ILO convencions, which ers. The crucial problem is that the ILO has no "teeth" with which to enagreements in practice - which some would ensure that it does not become a protectionist tool in the hands of the

From Mr Edward Thomas

Sir. You publish a letter today from five people discussing the NHS. Three describe themselves as Chairs, two as Joint Chairs. Surely the latter could have merged to form a settee and then all five could have collectively characterised themselves as a suite of furni-

Flat 4, 21 Jevington Gardens, Eastbourne, East Sussex. December 10.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782-5046

Dissent on contest to build 'inhabited' Thames bridge all seven of the proposed designs for an "inhabited" bridge totally inappro-priate, I would love to know the pro-

From Professor Gerald Dix

Sir, It is indeed surprising to read in Marcus Binney's report (December 10) that, not content with being an assessor in the Royal Academy's com-petition to design a habitable Thames bridge, Mr Gummer has "come out strongly" in favour of the design sub-mitted by M Antoine Grumbach.

As Mr Binney remarks, this is a highly controversial development pro-posal which, were n to be built, would dominate the view from Waterloo Bridge of the dome of St Paul's.

In accordance with the well tried procedures for the examination of schemes of this kind, responsibility for the final decision, based on evaluation of evidence presented at a public inquiry, rests with the Secretary of State for the Environment, But what confidence can one have in the outcome when the ultimate appeal judge has declared his views before the presentation of the evidence?

Unless the situation is pre-empted by a statement of his wishes by the Prince of Wales, who has significant influence but lacks statutory authority - or possibly by the arrival of a new secretary of state following a general election — Mr Gummer should surely state now that he intends to take no further part whatsoever in this case, or he should resign, possibly both.

Yours faithfully, GERALD DIX (Professor Emeritus of Civic Design, University of Liverpool). 13 Friars Quay, Norwich, Norfolk.

From Mr Andrew Hamilton Sir, As one of those who attended the

Royal Academy exhibition and found

portion of spoiled papers. M Grumbach's bridge is no more "inhabited" than the rather more elegant proposal from Sir Norman Foster and Sir Anthony Caro half a mile downstream (report, December 11). The "inhabited" element is a gro-

tesque 35-storey tower built alongside Temple Gardens on the Embankment - one of the few remaining cases of architectural elegance on the Thames waterfront.

Yours faithfully. ANDREW HAMILTON, 8 Carlyle Square, SW3. December 13.

From Sir Jonothon Mance

Sir, You report that the public has voted 2-I in favour of Antoine Grumbach's "controversial" 35-storey tower in the Royal Academy's competition for the design of a habitable bridge across the Thames from Temple Gardens to the London Weekend Television tower. What is controversial is whether this is the right place for ony bridge, let alone one incorporating so large a structure. The vote conducted at the Royal

Academy did not address that issue. The voting form presented a choice of seven designs, with no opportunity for dissent or comment on the principle or siting, unless by any who (like my-self) wrote upon it: "Wrong bridge in the wrong place".

The proposed structure is certainly

"daring". It would spoil the broad sweep and the tree-lined embankment of the river between Waterloo and Blackfriars bridges, interfere with a famous view of the City, and of St Paul's in particular, and dominate the

historic Temple quarter. I hope, as a member of the Middle Temple, that I shall not be thought guilty of nimbyism if I commend Sir Norman Foster's concept, involving a simple pedestrian bridge, running further downstream, between the steps leading up to St Paul's Cathedral

power stadon. I walk this stretch of the river just as frequently as the Temple reach, it of-fers considerable scope for an attracnve and useful crossing.

and the Tale Gallery's Bankside

Yours faithfully.
JONATHAN MANCE, St Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, EC4.

From Mr G. de la Bédovére

Sir, If London is to have a purely pedestrian bridge it will not be the first, as Marcus Binney reports. The present Hungerford Railway Bridge between Waterloo and Charing Cross stands on the site of, and incorporates parts of, Brunel's sadly shortlived suspen-sion footbridge, built between 1841 and 1845 to serve Hungerford market on the north side of the river. Demolished in 1863, its chains were re-used

on the Clifton suspension bridge. Almost every engineering project, it seems, was at least thought of first by a Victorian. And, no doubt the vociferous road lobby will ensure that a new footbridge is similarly shortlived before being incorporated into a six-lane superbridge for cross-London lorry

Yours faithfully. G. de la BEDÓYERE. 20 Eltham Park Gardens, SE9.

South Africa's Constitutional Court

From Mr Sydney Kentridge, QC

Sir, Your correspondent, R. W. Johnson, in his latest report from South Africa ("Boost for ANC after the new South African Constitution spurns federalism", December 10), has made some trenchant criticisms of the ANC Government's attitude to federalism. His views on such matters are worthy of consideration. His criticisms of the South African Constitutional Court are in a different category.

The court has certified that the new

Constitution is in accordance with the basic principle that the powers of the nine provinces should not be "substantially less" than those granted in the country's interim Constitution. This leads Mr Johnson to assert - unjustifiably, in my view — that the ANC "called the court's bluff", that the court's president had admitted that the new constitution reduced provincial powers but had nonetheless certified that it did not, and that the court had "bent the knee to the ANC leaderMr Johnson also says that "the ANC has an overwhelming majority" in the court. This is simply false. Of the 11 members of the court 1 believe that three or possibly four (not including the president) were before their appointment members or supporters of the ANC, but no unprejudiced observer could find in their judgments any hint of pro-Government bias. Of the others, six had been judges of

the Supreme Court of South Africa appointed to the Bench not by President Mandela but by Mr de Klerk or his predecessors. A less subservient court or a more

independent president than Justice Arthur Chaskalson would be hard to find. The court's judgment certifying the Constitution was based on a careful analysis of previous and present powers of the provinces.

graphy itself and the undesirability of

A first urgent humanitarian step.

fully consistent with standard civi-

lised practices, is to bring normalcy

Yours faithfully, SYDNEY KENTRIDGE. Brick Court Chambers, 15/19 Devereux Court, WC2, December 13.

regional isoladon.

South Atlantic links From the Ambassador of

the Argentine Republic

Sir. I wish to refer to your report, "Falkland Islands fear for future un-der Labour" [December 9: letter December 12; report and leading article, December 14].

Today a true spirit of reconciliacon prevails in Argentine-Briosh relations, which are an excellent example of what can be attained by means of goodwill and plain common sense. Concrete achievements such as the South Atlance oil agreement, growing British investments in Argentina and an ever greater bilateral trade give eloquent testimony of this.

An increased interest in contacts between the Argentine mainland and the Malvinas/Falkland Islands is totally in line with all the above. There are good reasons for building bridges instead of widening the divide. Amongst them, Argentina's constitutional commitment to pursue its claim peacefully as well as the facts of geo-

and dignity to the visits by the Argentine next-of-kin to the graves of soldiers fallen in 1982. This issue was very adequately highlighted in your leading article, "Thirteen years on". on June 6, 1995. A second natural stage would be the

progressive opening of communica-dons between the islands and the Argentine mainland. At this promising hour for Argentina and Britain, rather than rekindling the dark hours of 1982, it looks quite appropriate to revive the spirit which made both countries such close friends in the past and which inspired a strong current of mutual sympathy. To this Argentina is firmly committed.

Yours sincerely, ROGELIO PFIRTER, Embassy of the Argenone Republic, 65 Brook Street, WI. December 10.

Sir. Sharing the sentiments expressed

in your third leader today on the lack of representation for the voters of Wir-

ral South, I offer a suggestion for dis-

couraging the cynical, undemocratic

unwillingness of political party man-

agers to issue by-election writs if they

I propose legislation stating that

when a parliamentary seat becomes

vacant because of the death or resig-

nation of the MP. a writ for the by-

election must be issued within, say,

Failure to do so would mean the

seat is automatically filled for the rest

of the life of that parliament by the

runner-up candidate at the previous

If the runner-up is unavailable the

seat then goes to the candidate who

polled the third most votes, and so

With miscalculation by the whips

and a little luck. Screaming Lord

Sutch might yet liven up Westminster

Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire.

Wirral waits

From Mr Richord Penney

fear the loss of the seat.

four weeks.

Longborough.

December II.

From Mr Huw Elwyn Jones Sir, Mr Justice Parker writes (article,

Law, December 10): The civil justice system must be accord every citizen who has need of it. He correctly concludes:

Justice for all

The emphasis these days is, as it should be, on offering the public an efficient service for the resolution of civil disputes of all kinds and one that is available locally.

Undoubtedly, this is true of the "Rolls-Royce" service on offer to the commercial liogants in the big cioes. At the other end of the scale, justice to the ordinary litigant, particularly in rural areas, has become increasingly less accessible as a result of the ruthless drive towards administrative effi-

A quarter of a century ago regular county court sittings were held in nine lowns in north-west Wales: Holyhead, Llangefni, Menai Bridge, Bangor, Llandudno, Caernarion, Porthmadog, Pwilheli and Dolgellau. Today there are only two: Llangeini and Caemarfon.

There are no county court sittings in the 50 miles between Caernarion and Aberystwyth. This is hardly "access to

123 High Street, Bangor, Gwynedd.

Yours faithfully,

HUW ELWYN JONES,

by this route. Yours faithfully. RICHARD PENNEY, Barrington Cottage,

From Mr A. R. Morks

Sir, As one of a growing number of the

Weather check

Met Office's commercial customers I would welcome independent verificaoon of the forecasts provided (report, December 9). We have never been given a precise assessment for the accuracy of forecasts given to us under our contract — they claim in excess of 80 per cent; we calculate 61.7.

While it is true that the National Audit Office monitors Met Office performance, this does not extend to the accuracy of its forecasts. The NAO report of August 1995 said:

of the Met Office's performance and there is scope for greater objectivity in the verification of some forecasts.

Incidentally, the same report acknowledged the Treasury's calculation that the financial benefit to the country provided by the Met Office's services was three omes its cost to the taxpayer. One well-founded estimate put this figure at 20 times the cost, ie, benefits approaching £1.5 billion.

Yours faithfully, A. R. MARKS (Partner), Skyscan (aerial photography). Oak House, Toddington, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. December 11.

Lincoln Cathedral

From the Reverend Molcolm A. Johnson

Sir, Much sympathy must be felt for the Bishop of Lincoln, who has decided not to preach in his cathedral at Christmas (report, December 17). Would it not be possible for him temporarily to move his chair, his cathed-ra, to another large church in the city or county so that his people who love and respect him so much could be with him and he could be with them?

Yours sincerely, MALCOLM JOHNSON (Master), The Royal Foundation of Saint Katherine. 2 Butcher Row, El4. December 17.

Swan Lake overflowing

From Miss Jone Pritchard

Sir, Tchaikovsky may be rejoicing that Matthew Bourne's unorthodox "alternadve" Swan Lake has just passed the 100-performance mark jarticle, Arts. December 10), but it still has some way to go before it can claim to be the longest run of a single ballet ever to play the West End.

Opening on 22 May, 1885, Luigi Manzotti's three-act Excelsior ran for 169 performances at Her Majesty's Theatre, with such principal dancers as Adelina Rossi. Giovanna Limido. Kate Vaughan and Enrico Cecchetti.

Yours faithfully, JANE PRITCHARD (Archivist), Rambert Dance Company, 94 Chiswick High Road, W4. December II.

The polly and the ivy

From Mr Brion Drewitt

Sir, While visiting a pet shop in Macclesfield yesterday. I was exhorted by a display card to "Treat yourself to a parrol this Christmas".

in the light of your report about frozen turkeys today, this might be an offer worth taking. Yours faithfully. BRIAN DREWITT.

Lawrence Buildings, 2 Mount Street, Manchester.

December 13.

Nous. If he can also stave off dismissal by President Chirac, or win the benefit of the doubt while cutting bloated bureaucracies. West is 150





COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 17: The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cecil

Tanner (Deputy Lieutenant of Bedfordshire) was present at Luton International Airport this afternoon upon the Arrival of The President of the State of Eritrea and welcomed His Excellency on behalf of Her

The Lady Elton has succeeded the Lady Susan Hussey as Lady in Waiong to The Queen. BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 17: The Duke of York today undertook a series of engagements as Colonel-in-Chief, The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's) at Stonecutters Island, Hong

His Royal Highness this morning took the Salute at the Ferozeshah Parade. The Duke of York this afternoon visited Battalion lo-

cations at High Island. His Royal Highness this evening attended the Ferozeshah Dinner given by

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 17: The Princess

The Story of Christmas 1966

The Speaker was the principal guest at the 19th presentation of The Story of Christmas at SI George's, Hanover Square, yesterday, in aid of the Drugs in Schools Helpline and the Wessex Children's Hospice Trust. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westmin-

Dame Judi Dench, President of The Story of Christmas Appeal, Mr Robert Spooner, chairman and Lady (Timothy) Walker, administrator, received the guests. Among others present were:

others present were:
Viscouni and Viscouniers Chelsea,
the Bishop of London and Mrs
Chanres, Lord Sterfling of Plalstow,
Sir Mourice and Lady O'Connell, Sir
Brian and Lady Coswell. Sir William
and Lady Shapiland, Sir Timothy
Walker, O'C. Mgr George Stack,
Probendary William Maynard
Aikins, the Rev Dr Philip Whilmore,
Major and Mrs Michael Henderson,
Miss Kate Beckinsale, Miss Jenniter
Ehle, Mr and Mrs lan Hislop, Mrs
John Sessions and Mr Timothy
West.

Retirement

December 16 from the Midland and Oxford Circuit.

Royal, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, this afternoon opened the new Occupational Therapy Resource Centre at the Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill,

CLARENCE HOUSE as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. ST JAMES'S PALACE

evening attended a recital at St James's Palace.

ST JAMES'S PALACE December 17: The Duke of Kent this evening attended the Bach Choir Carol Concert, in the State Apartments, St James's Palace, London SWI. THATCHED HOUSE

ster attended.

Judge Iain Black, QC, retired on

London SE5.

December 17: Dame Frances Campbell-Preston has succeeded the Hon Mrs Rhodes

December 17: The Prince of Wales this afternoon received the Archbishop of Canterbury. His Royal Highness, President, the Bach Choir, this

YORK HOUSE LODGE, RICHMOND PARK

December 17: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, this evening attended the Joy to the World Christmas Celebration at the Royal Albert Hall, London

Royal engagement Princess Margaret, as President of the Friends of the Elderly and Gentlefolk's Help, will attend the society's annual

service of thanksgiving and carols at St Michael's, Chester Square, at 3.25. Dinner

Turners' Company The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were the guests of honour at a dinner given by the Master and Wardens of the Turners' Company last night at Apothecaries' Hall. Mr J.N. Ciclitira, Master, presided and presented the Lord Mayor with a silver embellished turned burr-walnut bowl. A guard of honour was found by the winning team from 78 Engineer Regi-ment Workshop REME (V) who received the Turners' Shield from the Master. Armong Others present were:
The Prime Warden of the Fishmonters'
Company, the Master' of the
Innibiders', he Master' of the
Innibiders', bowyers', and Master
Mariners' Companies, the Master of
the Society of Apotheraries of London,
the Master Culter in Hallamshire, the
Resident Governor. HM Tower of
London and Major-General Philip
Corp., Offector-General Equipment
Support (Army).

Armed Forces, was the host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterthe First Deputy Minister for

Church news

Luncheons

HM Government

The Hon Nicholas Soames,

Minister of State for the

day at Lancaster House for

National Defence of Poland.

Commerce (UK) Sir Brian Goswell, President

of the American Chamber of

Commerce (UK) presided at a

Christmas luncheon held yes-

terday at the Inter-Continental Hotel.

American Chamber of

Appointments
The Rev Robert Pestell, Assistant
Curate, St Katharine's, Matson: to be Priest-in-charge, Charfield

The Rev Eric Pollard, formerly Curate, SI Swithun, East Grinstead: now Assistant Curate. All Saints, Hove (Chichester). The Rev Jeanette Power, Assistan Curate (NSM), St Nicholas, Wickham: to be Assistant Curate (NSM), Si Cuthbert, Copnor (Portsmouth). The Rev Nick Ralph, Assistant

Curate, St Cuthbert, Copnor: to be Vicar, new plurality of Eastoke, St Andrew w North Hayling, St Peter The Rev Michael Stone now Assistant Curate, Chichester Team Ministry (Chichester). The Rev Fred Trethewey, Vicar,

BROWN - Geoffrey Philip, pascelally at Salishnry Hospica, after a braw fight egainst Cancer. Dear husband of Ceddwen and loving fathor and

hesband of Cerldwen and loving father and grandfather. Feneral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Monday 23rd Decamber at Jpm. Family flowers only, but if wished donations to Salishnry Hospice Care Trust clo D & Shengold, 159-1d1 Fleharton Street, Salisbury.

SUCKLEY - Brism Hugh FRICS on 13th December. Much loved husband of Ingrid and father of Sasha and Chuntal and beloved son of Betty Buckley and son-in-law of Olga and Ita Culham. So many will miss a truly good man. Flowers to be sent to W Uden & Sons Limited, 1P Chatsworth Parada, Perta Wood, Orplugton, Kent andler donations for either South Bromley Hospica or St. Christophor's Hospica should be sent c/o Sasha Suckley, Clifford House, 15 Clifford Street, London WIX 1RF. Service at Beckenham Crematorium, Eimers End Road, Beckssham at 12 noom Taosday 24th Decamber 1996.

Carvens - Eileen Mary (nie McGann) nn Bunday 15th December at Guy's Hospital, London. Deeply loved and missed by all her femily, her many frionds and in particular by har son, Thomas. Roquim Mass at 11.00am on Friday 20th December at St. Etheldweda's Church, Ely Placs, London, followed by buriel at West Norwood Cemetry, Norwood Eand, London. Flowers and enquiries to Hanry Smith (Battersen) Ltd Finneral Directors, 180 Estersen Park Road, London. Tal: 0171 622 4935. Donations if so desired to Guy's and St. Thomas's Trust (Hedley Atkins).

Romans come out of the woodwork

This set of wooden nativity figures, on display in a church near Stratford-upon-Avon, were carved by Jim

Cooper, a 53-year-old building manager who turned his hobby of wood carving into a successful business after

he was made redundant two years ago. He now works from the Custard Factory arts complex in Birmingham

By Norman Hammond, archaeology correspondent

THE oldesi Roman structure yet found in London has been discovered close to London Bridge. Dated by tree rings to AD 52, only nine years after the Roman conquest, it marks the beginning of the City waterfront as a place of trade.

The discovery was made during redevelopment of the Regis House site, just upstream from the bridge and flanking the main Roman road south from the Forum across the Thames. A reverment was built on the foreshore with timber piles and planks, straightening out the irregular bank and providing a solid foundation for development beside the bridge.

"Several timbers have been dated by dendrochronological analysis to AD 52, which means that this is the earliest securely-dated structure in London," Trevor Brigham and his colleagues report in London Archaeologist. The west end of the revenment contains reused timbers, Including two pointed palisade or ferce posts, which should take the earliest activity several years closer to the

A slightly later quay built on the same site has been dated to AD 63 by its tree rings: the trees were felled in the winter or spring. "It is now clear that reconstruction of London after the Boadicean destruction of AD 60 began almost immediately." the excavators say. Brockmoor: to be olso Rural Dean of Himley (Worcester). The revolt of Boadicea took place after she and her family were 8 No. 2: 31-38.

Howard League for Penal Reform, 44; Mr David Crossland, chairhumiliated by the Romans: her loeni army swept south from Norfolk and burnt both Camuloduoum (Cotchester) and London before their defeat. The

London before their deleat. The new quay was solidly built of squared cak baulks, carefully linked by notch-and-tenon joints; some of the timbers still had felling cuts and lifting notches visible. The material used to fill in the has excited the archaeologists, who describe it as "a large potential resource of artefacts from the first IS years of Roman settlement". Among the finds have been coins, a

cannabis. A large fragment of timestone from near Oxford, far up the Thames, may be part of a column from a monumental building of the early Roman period, perhaps one destroyed by Boadicea's troops. Part of a massive masonry building was found on the west edge of the site, but only the east wall was exposed.

quay behind this timber frontage

section of Roman armour, and a

leather bag containing seeds of

A set of warehouses was built during Nero's reign on the quay-side, each bay being around 33 by 14 leet. They were later demoi-ished, to be rebuilt in mud-brick. perhaps because the ground was unstable. The mud-brick walls, a rare survival, stand nearly 3ft high in places.

Source: London Archaeologist Vol.

Birthdays today Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG, 73; Miss Frances Crook, director,

man. Airtours. 50. Lieutenant-Commander LE. Fraser, VC. 76; Mr Christopher Fry, dramatist, 89; Pamela Lady Harlech, 62; Profes-sor M.J. Harrison, Vice-Chancellor, Wolverhampton University, 55, Miss Rosemany Leach, actress, 61; Sir Geoffrey Lofthouse, MP, 7t; Lord Merlyn-Rees, 76; Mr J.C.S. Mott, civil engineer, 70; Mr Albert Pacey, director-general, National Criminal Intelligence Service, 58: Miss Annette Page, ballerina, 64: Dr Joyce Reynolds, FBA, Roman historian, 78; Mr Keith Richard, historian, 78; Mr Keith Richard, Rolling Stones; guitarist, 53; Lord Robers of Woldingham, 86; Miss Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, tennis player, 25; the Earl of Shrewsbury, 44; Mr Steven Spielberg, film maker, 49; Mr Joe Wade, trade unionist, 77; the Right Rev R.K. Williamson, Bishop of Southwark, 64; Mr W.H. Yates, former senior partner, Knight Frank and Rutley, 61.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Charles Wesley, preacher and hymn writer, Epworth, Lincolnshire, 1707; Joseph Grimaldi, clown, London, 1779; Paul Klee, painter, Berne, 1879; Betty Grable, actress, St Louis, Missouri, 1916; Prince Wiliam of Gioucester, Barnet, 1941. DEATHS: Antonio Stradivari, violin maker, Cremona, Italy, 1737; Sir John Alcock, aviator, killed in an air crash, Conevvard, France, 1919; Robert Tyre (Bobby) Jones, golfer, Atlanta, Georgia, 1971.

Forthcoming marriages Mr B.W. Dreyer and Miss C.E. Milton Lakofski

The engagement is announced

between Ben, son of Captain and

Mrs Jeremy Dreyer, of Droxford, Hampshire, and Cathy, daughter of Mr Richard Lakofski, of Hatley

St George, Bedfordshire, and Miss Cesa Milton, of Highgate, London.

mr M.O. Gray
and Miss C.R. Dafter
The engagement is announced
between Michael, only son of Mr

and Mrs Paul Gray, of Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent,

and Claire, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Ray Dafter, of Piralico, London.

The engagement is announced between Christopher, second son of Mr Michael and Dr Ann Hutchinson, of Welshpool, Powys, and Alexandra, younger daughter

of Dr and Mrs Gregory Cookson. of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

The engagement is announced between Ben, son of Mr and Mrs

Peter Miles, of Bath, and Emily, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gary

Raymond, of St Peter's Square, London.

and Miss S. Davies
The engagement is announced between Martin, elder son of Mr

and Mrs Dudley Stribbing, of Stansford, Lincolnshire, and Sophie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alban Davies, of Liphook,

The engagement is announced between John Thomas, of South

Cerney, Gloucestershire, and Ruth

Mr C. Shaw
and Lady Mary Gaye Curzon
The marriage took place quietly in
Winchester yesterday between Mr
Christopher Shaw and Lady Mary
Gaye Curzon. There will be a
reception at Hinton Ampner on

The marriage took place on Sat-urday, December 14, at the Temple Church, between Mr Mark Swal-

low, son of Mr and Mrs Charles

Swallow, and Miss Sarah Thom-

swallow, and Miss Saran From-son, eldest daughter of the late Lieuzenant Colonel Derek Thom-son, OBE, and of Mrs Derek Imman and stepdaughter of Judge Derek Imman, Canon Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated

The bride was given in marriage by her stepfather and attended by

Tilly Cooper, Redmond and Alice Stevens. Mr David Prout was best

The reception was held in the Middle Temple Hall.

left estate valued at E1,501,745 net.

Henry Dibden, of The Empire

The Rev Dr J.T. Thomas

Rees, of St Ebbe's, Oxford.

and Dr R.M. Rees

Marriages

Monday, December 23.

and Miss S.L.J. Thomson

Mr M.R.C. Swallow

and Miss A.M.S. Cookson

and Miss E.C. Raymond

Mr C.J. Hutchin

Mr B.C. Miles

Mr M. Stribbling

Hampshire.

Mr N.K. Benetis and Miss A.J. May

The engagement is announced between Nikolaos, elder son of Mr. and Mrs C.N. Beneris, of Athens, and Amanda, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter J. May, of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne. Mr S.A. Brew

and Miss C. Reader
The engagement is announced
between Simon, elder son of Mr
and Mrs Godfrey Brew, of Burbage, Witshire, and Clare, younger daughter of Mr John Reader,
of Hernel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, and Mrs Della Reader, of St
Albans, Hertfordshire. Mr R.M. Broad and Miss A.C.B. Waddell

The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs Robin Broad, of Malvern Wells, Worcestershire, and Alexa, daughter of Colonel and Mrs David Waddell, of Chelses, London.

Captain H.M.A. Cummins and Miss V.E.M. Craster
The engagement is armounced between Captain Henry Cummins, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys), elder son of Mr Michael Cummins of Mermins and Market State (Carabiniers and Carabiniers and Cummins of Market Cummins of Mermins and Carabiniers and Carabi mins, of Westminster, and of Mrs Mary Cummins, of Numpey, Somerset, and Victoria, elder daughter of Colonel and Mrs Michael Craster, of Craster, Northun berland.

Mr G.B.A. Cummins and Miss D.L. Sanders The engagement is announced between George, younger son of Mr Michael Cummins, of West-minster, and of Mrs Mary Cummins, of Numey, Somerset, and Lee, eldest daughter of Mr J.O. Sanders, of Covington, Louisiana, and of Dr and Mrs Jimmy Mains,

of New Orleans. Mr A. Hodson

and Miss J. Rutland-Barsby The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mr Christopher Hodson, recently of Twickenham, now at Tysoe and the late Suzanne Hodson, and Juliene, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Rutland-Barsby, of Meringfordhurch. Herringfordbury. Mr P.M. Ridge and Miss J. Clowes

The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs perween rminp, son of Mr and Mrs
Peter Ridge, of Chandlers Ford,
Hampshire, and Joanna, daughter
of Mr Tony Clowes, of Over
Alderley, Cheshire, and Mrs.
David Quayle, of Winchester,
Hampshire, Mr A.M.E. Robin

Mr A.M.E. Robinson
and Miss C.J.L. Brown
The engagement is announced
between Mark, son of Colonel
Nigel Robinson, of Richmond,
Surrey, and Mrs Patricia Robinson, of Offichurch, Warwickshire,

and Louise, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Brown, of Tetbury,

Latest wills

Rushbrooke, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, left estate valued at £18,542,935 net. He left his estate mostly to relatives. Thomas Richard Horsington, of Nether Cerne, Dorchester, Dorser

He left £500 to Church of St John the Evangelist, Cambridge.

San San Re

Percy Charles Gray, of Cambridge, left estate valued at E1,275,403 net. left estate valued at

El,106,859 net.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

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Pharators, Salgon, Sussel etc. All c/c acc. Free delivery.

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TICKETS

That the dead are raised to life hat the dead are taked to he again is shown by Moses in the atory of the burning bush, when he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob', Luke 20 :37

BIRTHS

DE SATGE - On 14th December, to Fenella (Née Sait) and Nicholas, a daughter, Devina Mary Valentine. GRUSSING - On Decombor 1dth at the Fortland Hospital, to Kam and Jon o Descutiful daughter Charlotte Alice. A sister for Alexandra.

1PPd, to Penelope (née Andrews) and Charles, a son, William. KNOCKER - On Dommber 12th, to Alison (nee Marshall) and William, a son, Frederick William Robert, a brother for Olivia and Louisa

ENTY - On 12th December

MACDONALD - On December 14th, to Juliet and Charles, a son, Maximilian John. PATTESON - On December 9th, to Joanna (née Crawford) and Mark, a daughter, Anna Frances, a sister for Charlie.

RODES - On December 13th at the Portland Hospirel to Addish and David a son, Keyhaan Imad Alexander. WATSON - On 12th December 1994, to Balinda and Charles, a daughter. WELD - On December 12th, to Georgina and Charles, twins, Bliza and Thomas.

WESTON - Simon and Valerie (Bée Bound) on 13th December, a denghtar, Florence India.

DEATHS

Bagshawe - at rest on December 13th Major Tom Bagshawe of Wormhill Hall sagarawe of womain Hall and formerly of Oakes Park, Shefrield 8. Deazly loved by all his family. Finnarel Thursday December 19th. Service and cremation at Chesterfield Gromatorium at

BEFREE - Roy, on the 14th Detember 1996, peacefully at The Priory Hospital, Edgebaston, Siraningham, aged 73. Beloved husband of Helps, adored father of Insand Eobert and grandfather of Charlotto, Nicholas, Charles, Joshuz, Sebastan, haries, joshuz, Sebastian Benedict and Imogen tton Coldileld The MacMillan Nurses ofo Thomas Ely & Sons Funeral Directors, Willenhall, West Midlands, tel: (01902)

ESL. Quentin, died at home on 1dth December 1996 aged 86.

ENPERT - On 16th December

BENNETT - On 16th December 1996, peacefully in hospital in lolor Bahro, Malaysia et la lolor Bahro, Malaysia ether a long and coursecous fight against Cancer, Roy Grissell Bennett CMG, TD. Much loved brother of Chum (Mank) and sadly missed by his meny friande in Malaysia, Singapore and the United Kingdom. Fanerel Sorvice at St Georgo's Chnich, Minden Road, Singapore, 246816 on 19th December 1996 at 10.30m. Memorial Service in England in the New Yeer to be announced.

SEMAN - Beryl Inch, passed eway on Idth December 1996, at Clinton House N.H. St. Austell, aged 90. Much loved mother of Elizabeth and Micholes and mother-in-law of Eli and Deirdre, very prond grenny of Mark, Andrew, Emme, Bimon, Bezzietta and Sophia and great granny of nine. Crematorium, on Monday 23rd December at 11.20m. Family flowers only.

23rd December at 11.20sm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Salvation Army c/o Ken Newcombe Funcal Home, Bucklers Lane, Holmbush, St

FRCS. on December 13th 1996, former Consultant Naurological Surgeon at Whisgrave Hospital. Dearly loved husband of fan and a dear father, step father and grandfather. Funeral service at the Milo-Wewickshire Crematorium, Oakley Wood on Friday December 20th at 3.30pm. Pamily flowers only but donations if desired may he sent to Headway. hat constions it degined may ha sent to Headway, National Hoad Injuries Association, c/o W G Rathbone Fimeral Directors, 3O Clarendon Avenne, Lemmington Spa.

BOSSMELL - Erica Margaret, at home in Tigoni, Kenya, on the 17th December after a long and difficult illness borne with conveye and hymour. Loved and admired mother of Peter, Timothy, Pauline and Lindsay and Pauline and Lindsay and grandmother of Thos, Frederica, Fhocha cad Matthew Private Requim Mass on her birthday and Memorial Service on Pickry 3rd January 1997 at St. Paul's Monastry, Tigoni of 3,00pm.

BROOKE - Esses Vere, peacefully at home, on 16th December, after a short linese, spec 105. Widow of the late listor Rasil Brooke and the only child of the late 2ir Cherler and Lady Gunning. Much loved mother, ornadinother and mother, grandmother and
great grandmother, funeral
of St Sinca Zalotes Church,
Milner Street, Chalses, at
12.30pm on Friday 20th
December, Family flowers
only A Memorial Service will
be held in the Spring.

CLEMENCS - Petor or Presenter 16th peacefully at LEMENCS - Peter on December 1 dit pescentilly at home with his family, adored husband of Pat and much loved father and grandfather. Funeral services grandfather Funeral service at 2t Peter's Church, Prestbury on Monday 23rd Decamber at 2.00pm, followed by committal at Macciesticid Cremstorium. Family flowers prefered, or donations to The British Heart Foundation. Enquires to J W Brockishnest & Sons, Tel 01625-829232.

CUARER - Constance Aimés Johanna, peacefully at home, on Sunday 15th Decumber, after a short illness. Widow of Equais and loving mother of Sunday Sarah and Charles. Funers 1 of St. Nicholne? Church, Lockington on Friday 20th December et 2.00pm. Pamily flowers only Finary ZUTR December et 200pm. Pamily flowers only please, or done rione if wie had to Sonthampton University Hospital Cystic Fibroris Fund, clo E B Allem, 22 Eastway, Coatle Donnington, DEF 27N, reb (01332) 810370. de VERE GREEN - Jane (née Robb), on 16th December, very penorfully following e sudden stroke. Dearly loved wife of Robin and devoted mother to Tim, Adrian and founty, Family cresuation followed by a Thanksgiving Sarvica on Friday 20th December at 2pm at Geldeston Church, Family Tloware only nlease. mother to Tim, Adrian and jouny. Family crewation followed by a Thanksgiving Sarvica on Friday 20th December at 2pm at Geldeston Church. Family flowers only please, Donations if deeired to Harvey 2ros F/D, Clients, Chanity Account, Lichy Cana, Bungay, NR35 2FF to be shared amonget Jana's favourite charities.

DOBBIN - (Newcastle Upon Tyne). Suddenly on 1dth December 1PP6 aged 21 years, Nova, dearly loved wife of the lata Robert Dobbin resident mather. wife of the lata Robert Dobbin, perfect mother to David Dohbin and Julia Lowrie and adored guandmother of Mark, Ben, Llam, Ollver, Ftous and Rosanna. Her midiance, wir and exuberance will always ha remembered. Funeral service at St. George's Church, lesseond, Newcastle at 11.15 am on Monday 23rd December followed by tamity service at The Crematorium. Flowers if desired may be sent to John Bardgatt and Sone, 571 Westgata Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne.

Dyon lyne.

Dyon lyne.

Dyon lyne.

2 on 17th December 199d at Enowle Fark Nursing Home, Cranleigh, peacefolly after a long lilness. Dearly loved husband of Doraan, and loving father of Angela. Cremation at Gnildford Crematorins, 11.30 am, Monday 23rd Decembar, Family flowers only, donations if desired to EN (Moctor Trades Bearvolum Fund) c/o Ayling Funeral Services, 27 South Road, Gnildford, 01483 567333. on 8th December 1996 in

on 5th December 1996 in The Busses Notfield Hospital after an illness. Wife of the late Ralph Humphrey Etherton M.P. of Greentrees Farm, Balcombs Forest. Much lowed mother of Philip and Partics and grandmother of Melanie and of frame of France with the Pres French. Esquin Mass at 2.00pm at St. Leonards Church, Ternars Hill on Thursday 19th December 1996.

POX - John, suddenly on 13th December, much loved husband and friend of Holen. Prieste cremation. Family flowers only, but donations is desired for Great Ormond Street Hospital, may be sent co Setim Smith & Co., 74 Prestbury Road, Chell

GORDON - Margaret Mary (note Hawkings) peacefully at Woodcote Grove House on 16th Documber ther 101st year. Widow of LV. Gordon MBE Greatly loved mother and grandmother. Fameral at and sendinother. Puneral at St. Panl'a Church, Woldingham at 1pm on 23rd December. Family flowers only Donations if derived to friends of the Elderly, 42

London SEG 4AF.

HANSON - Lr. Candr Hamson
DSO DSC (Late Captain
Albrighton) 1st DF Died
pencarally in lersey on 15th
December, 1996, aged 85
years The Femeral service is
to be beld on Thursday 19th
December, 1996, 1230pm at
St. Seolades Fariah Chunzh,
followed by cremation.
Flowers may be sent to Inch
& Sailivan, Finseral
Directore, Dona House,
Longuevilla Road, St.
Savious, Jessey no inter than
10cm or if prefarred
donations in Roadid's
memory may be sent to King
Georyes Fund for Sailors, c/o
Lt. Cmdr D. Seymour,
Melhourha House, La
Grande Soute Faidouet, St.
Martin, JES 6UZ. Enguiries
to Inch & Sullivan, Funseral
Director Tal: 01534 d19922.

HARDERS - John Grouvehor

d19922.

MARDING - John Groevenor
Laurance (Larry), on 17th
December, aged 88. Much
loved hosbund of Rachel and
fathar of Nick and Gny.
Fanarel private. Family
flowers only. Donations if
desired to The Abbeyfield
acciary, Windson Bud,
Beaconstead, HPS 21W. Beaconstield, HF9 2JW.

HOWE - On December 16th, at home in central London as the siways wished, eged 97 Ruth, devoted wife of Elmest. Howe, beloved sister of for Latter, and sum to Fhilip, Roger and Mary. Finnaral Service at Goldere Creen Cremutations (West Chapes) Hoop Lane, London NW11 at 3.30 pm on Friday 20th December. Family flowers only, but domations in Hey, in favour of either Ammenty International or Thy RSPCA eto A France & Son, 45 Lamb's Condon Sizer, London WGIN 3NH, tol: (0171) 405-4901.

JOHNSON - Walter J. o.1

(0171) 405-4901.
JOHNSON - Walter J. ol Bronzville, New York City on December 15th 1976. Husband of the late Toelle E. Johnson , father ol Meriaune Cruitshank, Horhert M Johnson and Marjorio J. Hewent, grandfather of nine, great grandfather of six. Memotial service at The Villoge Latherm Church, Bronzville on Wednesday December 18th at 10sm.

NNAFP - (Nee de-Saits) Exchel

18th at 10am.

KNAFF - (Nic de Salis) Buchel Penelope, peacefully on Decamber 14th, oged 88 years. Loving widow of the late Rev. Charles Emapp, of Lydlinch and Hampson, the beloved wother of Mary, Eve. Alism, John and Jama, and doring grandmether of many. The Funeral Service and commation will take place at Cheltenbeh Cemarchim on Mondry 6th Jamary, at 2m. Chattennam Crematorium on Monday 5th Jamany, at 2 pm. Dunations if desired to the Royal British Legion, or Howers may be sent to Salim Smith & Co., 74 President

LAAN - Petrus Wilhelm os Bemüritus van det. Born 17 Jana 1923 and fer too unexpectedly, after a thort ilineus, passed away 11 December 199d. Deaply distressed by his beloved wife Disis L van der Lam-de Winter, his children and grandchildren. They ere profoundly grets 1st 1or everything he gave them. Address for correspondence F.O Box 65850, 2506 ED The Hague, The Netherlands. The mussorial startice will be held Thursday 1P December 11.00 hrs. at SEMERTYES of Gozhun at The Hague. Afterwards the interment at the kamily gave at St. Fetrus Benden at The Hagus at 12.15 hrs.

LAME - Fever van der Born 17
June 1933, Degreef friend of
Joan Scott-Goldstone
enddenly died on 11
Decamber 1994. For
correspondence: Boyne Fark
flat 3-10, Turnbridge Wells,
Kent.

LAMBOON-DAVIES - Frier Guy, on 15th December, suddenly in Wales, beloved husband of Cynthia, and father of Tom and Jams. Funezal on Friday 20th December et Particilow Church, Flowers to E.J. Bevan, Windy Ridge, Church Eoud, Gibvern, mear Abequevent, Mon. Memorial service to be anxinged later.

husband of Christian and loving lather of Olivis, Edmund, Gareth and Martllyn. Treasured grandfather and greel grandfather. Cremetion private on Monday 23rd: Decembor. A Mamorial Service will be held in the new year deley to be amounted.

Miller-Strained - George Hohert, husband of Margorat and lether of Georgina and Diana, died on the 13th December 1996. Funcial has taken place in

MAYNE - J.E.O. (jeck) of Cambridge, peacefully on Saturday 14th December 1996, sped 87 years. Pemerial Service at Cambridge City Crematorium on Friday Documber 20th at 10 am. No flowers by request. Donations if desired, may be made for Cancer Research of Elary Williams and Sons, 7 Victoria Park, Cambridge.

MREES-JOMES - Stephen died peacefully on 17th December at Lewis, Senser, and Green and Gwliym, and brother of Lauris, Funeral private. "Cwag mews hedd".

MIDLEY-THOSEPSON - Laurie, on 13th December 1994.

MANNO - On 15th December, pencefully in hospital Stilan Munro, East Beloved step sen of Shoots Munro. Born Walton-on-Thames, 1923 intaly of Ginestes. Pames, tacht Shipper and Marine Consultant, well known throughout the Mediterranean and Caribbean Sadly missed. mown throughout the Mediterranean and Caribbean Sadly missed. Service at Landalis Park Cramatorium, Lestherhead, at 2.50pin Friday 20th December. Flowers may be sent to F W Chitty & Co. Weybridge, Surrey.

LAMBOOM-DAVIES - Peter Gu MONTEN - Maureen Ellen (née Carty) on December 8th at Sct. Locas Horpice, Copunhagen, Seloved wife of Jens Müntar, mothar to Elizabeth, Martin and Mels and grandmothar to Sebestian and William.

MICHOLLS - On Decumber 15th pencafully after a long, counspours and brave right, Alan William Dalforca (Spilm) late IVII Foot, a very apoctial father and gnandfather. He will be saily missed by lossilly and friends, Cretostion private, Hemorial Service to be held of SI Edmund & St Mary Church, Ingetestone, Essex, on Setunday 28th December ti 12 noon, Pannity Rowers only, doostions if desired to The Amy Semerolant Fund ofo T Funnack & Sons, Funeral Directore, 173 Maldon Load, Great Baddow, Chelmatoric Cat C TDW. LEWIS - On 17th December, peacefully at home in his sleep, Gwilym Hogh Lewis, DFC RFC/RAF, in his hundredth year. Huch loved hundredth year. Huch loved hundredth of Christian and

LTHEOW - Denis on Tuesday 17th December at home spec 73. Husband of June, better of Mark and Andrew, grandlether of Robert, Oliver, Joshua, Stellh and Anna.

MARTIN - Jennifer Colloryan, on 14th December, after a courageoes fight opainst Cancer, died aged 56 years. "Colloryan" Marine Photography. Beloved daughter of Maureen and him Eitehle, oed sdored mother of Jeanns, Alistate and Iona. She devoted her life to spreading happiness and goodwill to all around her. Funeral private. Memorial Service et St Mary's Church, Burnhamon-couch, 12pes Setuniay 21st December. All friends welcome at 5t Mary's and afterwards at The Royal Contributer Yacht Club. December of Community Pund (for the MacMillam Nusses). 212 New London Road, Chelmeford.

PERROTT - William Ellis, om December 11th 1994 suddenly med 71. Our very dear dad, despit) loved and sorely missed by Rec. Daph and Hacther. Francial service at 5.00 pm Friday, December 20th at Chilterns Crematorium, Amarsham. Family flowers only, donations 10 Farkinsons Disease Society, of Annald Funeral Service, 911 Landen Boad, Londwoler, Elgh Wycombe, Bucks, EF10 91F. Tel: (01494) 472572

PERRY - (Professor) Jack, Wid-ower of his adored Boris-Kate, dearly-loved father of Jillian, Vivlen, Graham, Strphen and Jonathan, beloved grandfather, younger brother of Lilly (King), pioneer trader with China, admired sed respected friend of many business collagues and personal friends in England, China and sisswhere, died on Thursday 12th December, His funeral will be held on Sunday 22nd December, at Golders Green Crematchinn, 11am.

RIDLEY-THORPSON - Larrie, on 13th December 199d, pecafully at The Park Hospital, Nottingham, after a long and counspoons buttle against Cament, Supported by the lowe of her family and friends and the devotion of Dochus, Munses and staff. Private cremation, family only, A Thanksgiving Service will be held at 2k Many's and All Saints Church, Willoughby-on-the Wolds, on 9th january 1997 at 3pm.

on 7th knumy 1977 at 3pm.

ELATER - August Henry Lite
(Thury), on 15th December
1996. Saloved husband of
Mary, father of Defrire,
Martin and Leonova and
grandisther of Laura, Mell
and Rabecen. Funeral Service
at Keasington United
laform Church, on Monday
23rd December at 1.30pm,
followed by cremation at
Mortiske Crematorium, at
2.30cm. Family flowers only.

Society.

TAYLOR - At Apeley Home, Oxford, on December 14th 1996, Mildred Oxford Hartley), wife of the late William Taylor C.B. and last surviving child of Joseph and Mary Hartley, formerly Tube and Official Fellow of Somerville College. Cremation at St. Johns Chapel, Crematorium, on Friday December 20th, at 200pm. No flowers by her raquest. No flowers by her request.

VAN DER POST - Laurens Inn
Knight Buchelor, pescefully
at home, on 16th December.
Funcal Service for family
and close friends at Uniet
Church, Christchurch Street,
Chelses, at 11sm, on Priday
20th December. Femily
flowers only please, har
donations may be made to
Pist People of the Enleimi
clo J H Kenyon & Co. 49
Memoral Service will
be anneumoed istee.

be ameunced late.

WARSHAW - Author Cyril, on December 14th peacefully after a long illness, aged 77. Much loved knuband of Hurr, father of Jenney and Jane, and grandfather of Matthaw, Chartie and Thacthy. His body has been bequeathed for the benefit of medical education and research. There will be a memoral celebration of his life-to be held at 11 am on Monday, December 23rd at the Eochaspton Lime, London SW15, No flowers, please.

WILEOT - Tony, 14th.

SWILMOT - Tony, 14th
December, was received into
the presence of his Lord.
Scioved husband of Ere and
father and grandfathor.
Funeral at St. Nicholas,
Servacelles, 23rd December
of 11.00am. Thanksgiving

lith Stuck loved imband of Gay, father of Madly, John and Michael, and grandfather of Danial, Annabel, Sophie and Oliver. Service at Haycombe Crematorium, Whiteway, Such on Satunday December 21st at 12 noon, Family flowers only, dountions to The ESFE. Engantes to T. Wicks and Son. Tak (01749) 673377. THANKSGIVING

SURTEES - A Service of Thanksgiving for the His of Major John Freville Henry Suries ORE MC, will be held at St Michael's Church, Cornhill, London, BC3 on Wedneday 22nd January 1997 at 3pm. IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

EXE - in loving and unfading memory of Captain Reman (Iles) has who died suddenly 18th December 1999, Sadly missed by his wife Louis, mother, huther, sisters, nephews and the Broad-Davies family.

WANTED MONE COATS, for coats pur-chased Best price paid, All inquires/details Box No 1734 PRE 1940's clothes, lines, lece, such fine, petchwork, quilts, embackisties, trapplers, aboves, oriental families, costwae journey 0171 229 9618 FOR SALE

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SURS 0171 323 4480 A NEWSPAPER dated very day they were bonn £15-pplp. Same day desperach £171 725 2426. DRUM SET (Blingel), d place Sacheting street, £460. Tel. 0181 7406506. W.R.H. Debenture sents Arms Farks to include distin (50 years), best Tal: 01446 730730





ATT AND

OBITUARIES

QUENTIN BELL

Quentin Bell, artist and author, died on December 16 aged 86. He was born on August 19,

The second son of Clive and Vanessa Bell, Quentin Bell was born into the heart of the Bloomsbury Group. In the year of his birth Roger Fry, his mother's intimate friend, was championing the first Post-Impressionist exhibition. Raised among painters, critics and writers — his mother was the sister of Virginia Woolf — Bell assumed from an early age that he, too, would be an artist.

Quentin Claudian Stephen Bell was brought up in Gordon Square in Bloomsbury and in Sussex. In 1916 Vanessa Bell took a lease on Charleston Farmhouse, near Firle. At first it was used for family holidays but later it became a perma-

At Charleston she established a stable, if unorthodox, household, shared with fellowpainter Duncan Grant (the father of Bell's sister Angelica) and, at different times, other members of the Bloomsbury Group and Grant's homosexual lovers. With his elder brother. Bell as a child produced a family newspaper, the Charleston Bulletin, which charted domestic events; Virginia Woolf contributed.

1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994

He was educated at Peterborough Lodge, a preparatory school at Swiss Cottage, to which he went as a day boy from 46 Gordon Square, and at the Quakers' Leighton Park, after which he studied painting in Paris and Rome.

By the early 1930s he was an active Labour supporter and an equally active disrupter of Fascist rallies, in which he was aided by his considerable height and bulk. His aunt Virginia described him as a young man as being "very burly and male", and like a red and white sheep dog. She thought he had "all Nessa's sense, and Clive's shrewdness". His eyes were very blue, and his red-gold hair, according to an elderly Duckworth relation, like "a bed of Zinnias" (In his old age, less burly and with a full white beard, he looked like a clever, kindly

Father Christmas.) In 1933 Bell suffered from a changing tastes and fluctuat-tubercular infection which ne- ing reputations in art.

Bell moved on to university posts of increasing illustriouscessitated a convalescence in Switzerland. On his return he studied pottery with T.A. Fennemore at Stoke-on-Trent

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pumphouse at Charleston. Politically, he shared Fennemore's support for industrial art - Vannessa, Duncan and even the young Angelica contributed to Fennemore's series of artist-designed tablewares for Foley China — but he returned ultimately to the Bell-Grant celebration of the handmade. He threw shapes for decoration by his mother and Duncan, and, in later years could not always distinguish between their hands and his

Bell then divided his considerable energies between painting potting and politics. In 1930 he had exhibited in a mixed show at the Mansard Gallery on the top floor of Heal's in Tottenham Court Road, and had an exhibition of collages in Cork Street in 1935.

He designed posters appeal-ing for medical aid for Spain during the Civil War, and with his mother visited Picasso in his Paris studio - where they saw the as yet unfinished masterpiece Guernica - to invite him to London to appeal for aid for the children of Bilbao. Bell's elder brother Julian was killed in Spain working for the ambulance service on the Republican side.

Bell, unlike many of the members of Old Bloomsbury, was not a conscientious objector. He was rejected by the Army on account of his history of tuberculosis. During the Second World War he worked as a farm labourer for Maynard Keynes at Tilton, From 1941 to 1943 he was a member of the Political Warfare

The life-sized effigy of Hitler burnt on Firle Beacon at the end of the war was his handiwork. Also during the war he collaborated with Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant and his sister Angelica on the decoration of Berwick church. two miles from Charleston. His contributions were the sixsmall panels representing the sacraments on the inside of the chancel screen, and The Wise and Foolish Virgins over the chancel arch; later, he did some murals and the

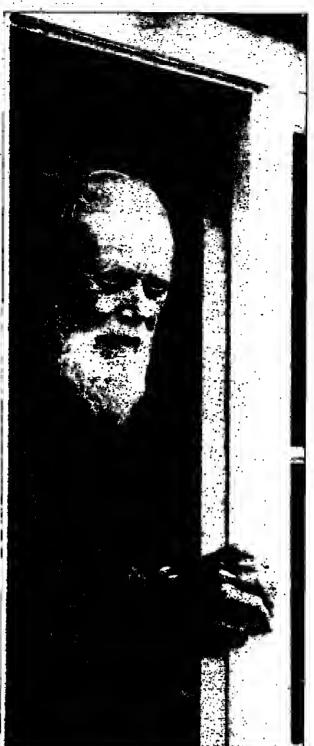
In 1947 Bell published his first book, On Human Finery. about fashion in dress - a subject that was to be extended into a lifelong consideration of

Impossible - English -Helmut Gernsheim), and married Anne Olivier Pop-

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

GIFTS

FLATSHARE



became a lecturer in Art Education at King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne, where Lawrence Gowing was then Professor of Fine Art.

In spite of having had no academic training himself. ng reputations in art.
In 1951 he published These

posts of increasing illustriousness. He was Professor of Fine Art at the University of Leeds, 1962-67: Slade Professor of Fine Art at Oxford, 1964-65; and had a kiln built in the ham. The following year he and Ferens Professor of Fine

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Art at the University of Hull, 1965-66. In 1967 he moved back to his home territory as Professor of the History and Theory of Art at Sussex University, a post he held for ten years, living with his family at Cobbe Place, Beddingham. When Cobbe Place finally became impracticable, the

Bells moved to their last home, in Firle village. The last major show of his own work was in 1986. He

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never stopped painting, potting and writing. He published Roger Montané in 1961: The Schools of Design and Ruskin, both in 1963; Victorion Artists (1967); Bloomsbury (1968): A New and Noble School (1982); Techniques of Terracotto (1983).

His novel The Brandon Popers typified his humour and versatility, It starts with an inquiry into the death of a titled lady and develops into a full-blooded Gothic melodrama.

Just before the Second World War, during an evening of amateur dramatics at Char leston, the young Quentin Bell dressed up in a frock, fur coat and lipstick, to act the part of a guide showing a party of American and French ladies round the house in the year 2036. The cult of Charleston did not take so long to establish itself as that. The Charles-ton Trust, of which he was the first chairman, opened the house to the public in 1986.

Living all his life under the shadow of Bloomsbury, Bell was the curator, and to some extent the creator, of its growing legend. At Leonard Woolf's request he undertook the biography of Virginia Woolf — no easy task for a nephew — which, published in two volumes in 1972, won both the James Tait Black prize and the Duff Cooper memorial prize. His wife Olivier is the editor of Virginia Woolf's diaries. They have documented Bloomsbury with scrupulous care and respect.

Although always courteous. he was rightly impatient of worshippers at the Bloomsbury shrine who came "to ask what Virginia had for breakfast". But he was welcoming and generous to those who shared his irreverent enthusiasm for art.

For Bell, as for Roger Fry. the purpose of art was to communicate joy. He enjoyed throwing and experimenting with the clay and with the decorative possibilities of robust but humble shapes such as mugs or tea-pots, and rather despised the lack of frivolity in the "prim and proper" pots made by Bernard Leach's followers.

He believed that a certain carelessness betrayed the vitality of the maker and saw nothing wrong with the vul-garity of adding a slap of gold to enliven the por. Despite the sophistication of his writings and teaching, pottery re-mained for him "rather a lark" and he rather liked it.

During the 1980s, Bell received technical assistance from the Fulham Pottery, making both domestic wares, exhibited at Liberty's and other Londoo galleries, and larger commissions such as a fountain for a Sussex garden. The Fulham Pottery also made hand-painted ceramics for Laura Ashley's "Bloomsbury" range to his designs.

He expressed his more private thoughts in the medium of sculpture: those who had seen the huge levitating lady who defied gravity in the garden at Cobbe Place another cast graces the cam-pus at Leeds University — or the romantic and sexual fantasies expressed in his painted terracotta groups and figures, were hardly surprised at the dark undertones of that late novel, The Brandon Papers.

For a long time it seemed as if the world would be deprived of his own memoirs, but in 1995 he filled that gap with his volume of reminsioence, El-ders and Betters. His penultimate book Bad Art (1989) - a collection of his lectures, essays and articles - also contained a lively autobiographical chapter. In his earlier years he wrote a good deal for the New Statesman in Kingsley Martin's day and for The Listener during the celebrated reign of J. R. Ackerley as its literary editor.

Quentin Bell is survived by his wife Olivier, whom he married in 1952, their two daughters and a son.

RUBY MURRAY

Ruby Murray, Irish singer, died from bronchial pneumonia and liver cancer yesterday aged 61. She was born on

March 29, 1935.

IN THE ephemeral world of popular music, Ruby Murray was a phenomenon who earned her place in the Guinness Book of Theatrical Records. A singer whose simplistic style disguised skil-ful phrasing and far greater vocal resources than her appealing huskiness suggested, she achieved massive popularity at the start of her meteoric career, when five of her recordings were simultaneously in the Top Twenty for three months at the beginning of

One of them, the haunting Softly Softly, went to No I and became her indelible signature tune for the rest of her life. Her feat remains a world record, equalled since by Elvis Presley and Madonna, but unsurpassed by even the

Ruby Florence Campbell Murray was born at 84 Moltick Street, Donegal Road, Belfast, the youngest of four children. She gave her first public performances as a child in amateur concerts presented by her father at the Ulster Hall. One of these was seen by the British television producer, Richard Afton, who booked her for her professional debut, aged 12, on Irish television.

At 16 she was chosen as the singer for a revue touring the Republic of Ireland, Yonkee Doodle Blarney. In June 1954, the tour ended in London at the old Metropolitan Music Hall, in Edgware Road, Richard Afton, looking for a singer to replace Joan Regan in his

Contrary, offered her the job she was earning at the time.

The British record producer Softly, Softly, which went to No I. A wistful love ballad

After leaving school at 14, she worked in a bakery, a handkerchief factory and a sweet shop before touring Northern Ireland in the variety show, Top Flight Stars. At 14, she appeared at the Glasgow Pavillion in the summer season revue, Mrs Mulligan's Hotel, returning home to tour Northern Ireland again in a hired lorry in Holiday

BBC television series, Quite

at £100 a week, six times what

Ray Mariin saw Murray's first television show and at once signed her for a recording contract on the Columbia UK label. Her first release, Get Well Soon, was not a big seller, but her second. Heartbeat, went straight to No 2 in the charts. It was followed by sung with her inimitable Irish



lilt and that husky catch in her voice, it personified the vulnerability and innocence that made her unique among the popular singers of the 1950s.

Three more hits joined the first two in the Top Twenty: Happy Days and Lonely Nights, which went to No 4, If Anyone Finds This ! Love You to No 5, and Evermore to No 6. Signed up by Bernard Delfont's agency, she started to pack theatres all over Britain, and in August 1955 opened at the London Palladium in Pointing the Town. which co-starred Norman

During the seven months' run she appeared before the Queen in the Royal Variety Performance. Later, on her arrival in the United States, she was astonished to find herself mobbed by hysterical crowds and to be told by Frank Sinatra that he was her greatest fan.

In 1956 she sang You Are My First Love in the John Mills film, It's Great to be

Young, and then co-starred with Frankie Howerd and Dennis Price in the screen comedy, A Touch of the Sun. in which she gave a refreshing and totally natural performance as a singing hotel

chambermaid. She proved that she could dance as well as she sang when she appeared on tele-vision with Tommy Steele in The Golden Year. She also starred in pantomime, playing the title role in Cinderella and principal girl in Babes in the Wood, Dick Whittington and Puss in Boots.

In August 1957, while ap-pearing with Tommy Couper in Blackpool, she married Bernard Burgess of The Jones Boys harmony group. They were to have two children and were to co-star in a nationwide tour of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs in 1962. But the marriage came under increasing strain because of Murray's dependence on alcohol and valium, and Burgess was wounded to learn of his wife's infatuation with a married man, the Irish comedian Frank Carson, an episode bleakly reflected in her dramatic recording. I'll Wolk the Rest of the Woy.

By 1970, when Murray, then

re-entered the Briosh charts with Change your Mind, there was no disguising the extent of her drinking. When she and Burgess were divorced in 1977, he won custody of their children and also retained Rectory Cottage, their 17th-century home at Wootton in Northamptonshire. The last 20 years of her life were spent with the former stage dancer and theatrical impresario, Ray Lamar, with whom she lived in Torquay.

They were married in 1993. Although her later appearances were often undermined by health problems, she never gave up her fight to conquer her illness. In 1985 she received a prolonged ovation when she appeared before the Princess Royal in Forty Years of Peace.

Both her husbands were at her hospital bedside, with her son - the singer Tim Murray - and her daughter Julie, when she died.

BRIAN TETLEY

Brian Tetley, journalist, died on November 23 aged 62. He was born on July 12, 1934.

BRIAN TETLEY died with his longtime friend and colleague, the award-winning cameraman Mohamed Amin, on the hijacked Ethiopian Airlines flight that crashed off the Comoros Islands last month. Inevitably, his death has tended to be overshadowed by that of the better-known Amin, but Tetley was, in fact, one of Africa's most colourful and eccentric characters.

He was mourned in his beloved Kenya as a hero, fêted by many in Government, the Civil Service and journalism. all of whom acknowledged their personal and professional debt to one they regarded as "the best man in Africa".

Brian Harrison Tetley was born in Birmingham. His mother died when he was ten and his father sent him and his older brother, Peter, to the Stanley House School in Birmingham. The younger brother remembered it as a "draughty, miserable, God-forsaken place from which I

couldn't wait to get out". His parents had moved from Manchester to Solihull in 1931 — and then into Birmingham to expand their engineering business - but Tetley displayed no inclina-tion to go into the family firm. Instead, at the age of 15, he left school to join the Birmingham Gazette and Despatch as a copy boy. It was the beginning of what was to become a lifelong obsession with a profession he was to decorate with a wit and a generosity of spirit

seldom equalled.

Apart from his National Service, which he recalled as "undistinguished". Tetley worked in newspapers, maga-zines and television on two continents and will be remembered as an impetuous, compulsive journalist of the hardliving, hard-drinking school.

His colleagues knew him as a consummate ideas man who had graduated from a tabloid background - in Britain, he was reputedly a co-creator of Reginald Smythe's Andy Capp cartoon character in the Doily Mirror - to become a witty and prolific writer. He first came to Africa in

Asked by one newspaper editor if he had a drinking problem, Tetley replied: "Yes, just can't get enough of it.' Almost every barman, taxi driver and street vendor in East Africa knew the dishevelled Tetley as Mambo. "Mambo Gichuki" was the Kikuyu pen name he used to sign off his "Mambo", "Dear God" and "Off the Wall" columns that enchanted generations of African readers.

1965 to help train Kenyan journalists but stayed the rest of his life in a country he came

to love as his own. He held court at all hours, enrapturing his students, in the aptly named Sans Chique bar behind The Daily Notion. Tetley was the first reporter fearlessly to expose the mass killings of Idi Amin's regime

after Amin seized power in Uganda in 1971. He wrote eyewitness accounts for The Observer of corpses thrown to the crocodiles at Jinja. No one believed him at first. Idi Amin had been seen by many in Britain as a great improvement in every way on the despotic socialist Milton Obote.

After editing publications as diverse as Nairobi's Sunday Post and the comparatively muted Kenyan version of Men Only magazine. Tetley went on to write classic African travel books, including the Journey Through ... series, On God's Mountain and Cra-dle of Mankind. In these his eloquent prose was matched by Mohamed Amin's breathtaking photographs.

Some 600 mourners of every age, religion and colour at-tended his funeral in Nairobi last week - from the old white settlers and friends to clothswathed Somalis and ordi-nary street people. He was buried with two bottles of his favourite Tusker lager inside his coffin. Telley would have enjoyed that, as he would the presence of three ex-wives alongside his widow. He was married twice in Britain where he is survived by three adult daughters - and at least five times to Africans, by whom he had no children.

DEATH OF MRS. GARRETT ANDERSON.

THE FIRST ENGLISH WOMAN DOCTOR.

We regret to announce that Mrs. Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, M.D. died at Alde House, Aldeburgh. Suffolk, yesterday. She was Si years old.

Mrs. Garrett Anderson was one of the pioneers at that phase of the movement for the emancipation" of women which aimed at throwing open to them the profession of medicine and was herself the first woman to secure a medical diploma in this cruntry . . . Elizabeth Garrett, known after her mar-

riage as Mrs. Garrett Anderson, was the daughter of Mr. Newson Garrett, of Aldeburgh, Suffolk, and was born in London in 1836. Her attention was attracted to medicine by Miss Elizabeth Blackwell, an English woman who had emigrated with her rents to the United States and after many fruitless attempts to enter various medical schools there, was permitted to graduate M.D. of the University of Geneva, U.S.A. in 1849. Ten years afterwards, on the strength of this foreign qualification and of her having prescribed for friends during a visit to England, she was put on the British Medical ON THIS DAY December 18, 1917

Elizabeth Gorrett Anderson (1836-1917) hod to fight long and hard to achieve her ombition to secure an English medical diplomo and hecome a doctor.

Register: so that, while as already stated, Miss Garrett was the first woman to secure an English diploma, Miss Blackwell had precedency of her as regards registration. Miss Garrett made Miss Blackwell's acquaintance and resolved to follow in her friend's footsteps but to get an English qualification instead of a foreign one. She began her medical studies in earnest in 1860. There were, however, two great difficulties before her. In the first place, there was no school where she could be received, and in the next place, there was no examining body willing to admit her to its examinations. At Middlesex Hospital the male students presented a memorial against the admission of women, and though she made repeated attempts elsewhere, she met for some years with effectual repulse in every direction After a time the Society of Apothecaries was

advised by its counsel that as the purpose of its charter was to enable it to sell drugs, and as there was no legal ground for refusing to allow a woman to sell drugs, the society could not refuse to admit a woman to the examination imposed on candidates for its licence. Thereupon the society authorized Miss Garrett to get her education privately from teachers of recognised medical schools and finally gave her, in 1865, the desired qualification of L.S.A. In 1866 she opened a dispensary near Lisson-grove, Marylebone, for the benefit of poor women and children. and for some years she was the only medical officer there . . . There was no medical school in England that would admit women but medical degrees were to be had abroad: Miss Garrett herself passed the examinations and took the M.D. of Paris in 1870; and, others taking similar steps, she secured assistants at her dispensary which was subsequently converted into a small hospital and after various changes developed into the "New Hospital for Women" in the Euston-Road.

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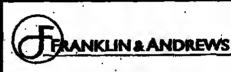
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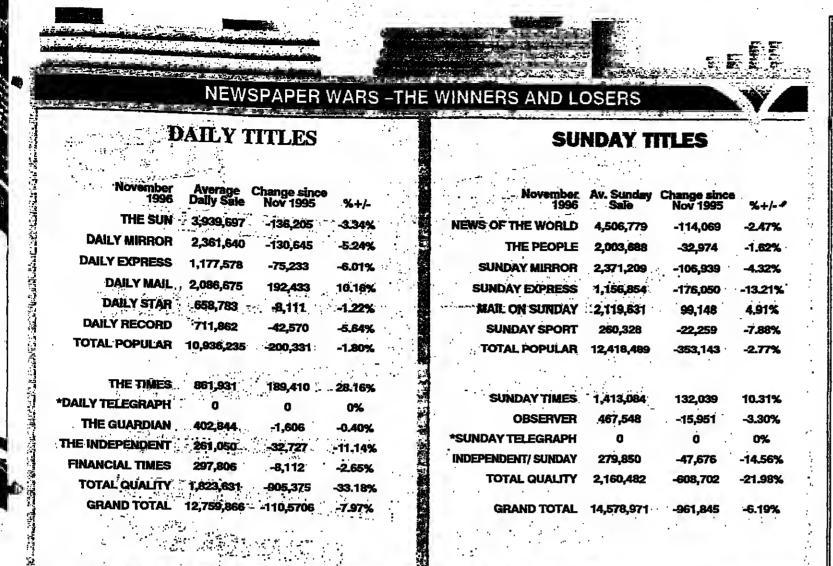


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Newspapers at war

fighting between two major newspaper groups become quite so fierce as the war being waged between The Times and The Daily

Jeremy Deedes, managing director of the Telegraph, confirmed yesterday that the group has issued a writ for breach of undertaking against the Audit Bureau of Circulations after it decided last CFriday - following a complaint from News-International which owns The Times - to omit the daily and Sunday Telegraph titles from its

monthly audit of national newspaper sales. highest sale for six years. They agree that sales of The Times, boosted by the success of its Eurostar promotion: hit a new record of 861,931, up 500,000 since the price was reduced three years ago, and selling more last month than the sales of The Guardian and The

Independent combined. They disagree strongly, however, over what sort of sales are being registered in the all-important "full price" category used by advertisers to determine where best to buy their advertising space.
The Times registers its cover

price as 10p on Monday, 35p from Tuesday to Friday, and 50p on Saturday. That shows sales at the full price of 802,000, with an additional 19,500 declared at a lesser rate and 39,800 as "bulk" sales, mostly papers offered free to customers at Trust House

Managers at The Times

argue that the 100,000 extra sales achieved by The Daily Telegraph from autumn subscription

offers should

not be de-

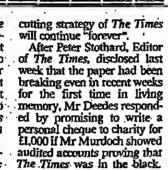
clared as sales at the full price. When The Times matched The Telegraph's subscription offers, it described new subscriptions to the ABC as sales at a lesser rate. That should also apply at The Telegraph, they say. It was when the ABC decided to accept the view of The Times last Friday that The Telegraph

decided to issue its writ. For The Times, the argu-Both groups agree that sales ment is more than mere of The Daily Telegraph last semantics. If the disputed month were II million its are stripped of copies sold at less than the full price, its sale ' drops below a million - an important psychological barrier — to just over 900,000, against 802,000 for The Times, the narrowest margin between

the two papers for decades. Mr Deedes says it is "pretty rich" of The Times, selling at 10p on Mondays, to "bleat" to the ABC about any competitor's discount. Yet advertisers know the price at which The Times is being bought; they do not know how many copies of The Daily Telegraph are being sold at unprecedentedly

The ABC, on which newspaper groups and advertisers are represented, accepts that IOp is the price of The Times on Mondays — and Rupert Murdoch, the chairman of News Corporation, parent company of News International, confirmed to the Financial Times this week that the price-

PAPER ROUND Brian MacArthur



Yesterday Mr Murdoch con-

been breaking even without The Sunday Times in four of the past five weeks. here is more to this newspaper war than a simple conflict between The Times and the Telegraph group. What the ABC declares is crucially important to both. At stake are advertising decisions based on ABC data worth millions of pounds - as well as the authority and reputation of the ABC itself. The job of the ABC. a non-profitmaking company launched in 1931 by newspa-

pers, magazines and advertisers, is to provide authenticated data on sales and to protect advertisers against false claims. Staff inspectors make random inspections of auditors' and publishers' methods. The measurement of news-

paper sales is becoming more

and more scientific. Newsna-

pers are delivered on sale or

wide by a network of about 100 wholesalers, with WH Smith and

know how many go out and most now use bar codes to verify returns. Within 24 hours, newspaper managements can assess the previous day's sale within a margin of error of about 2 per cent. Their records of sales are audited and submitted to the

Il is a system that has worked for 65 years but which has been put under increasing strain as newspapers have sought ever more ingenious s of increa tions - including scratch cards, rail, ferry and hotel promotions, special subscription offers and offering free papers at hotels or petrol stations. That is why the ABC recently started splitting sales data into three categories sales at full price, at a lesser

rate and in bulk. Equally fierce sales battles are being waged throughout Fleet Street. As the year ends, the 1997 winners are the Mail group against The Express, and the Guardian and Observer against the Independent titles.

At more than two million. sales of the Daily Mail last month, showing a year-on-year increase of 192,000 (10 per cent), were at their highest for 29 years - and The Mail on Sunday, with year-on-year sales up by 99,000 (5 per cent) also set a November record. Both papers are now almost a million ahead of The Express,

interview with David Bowie,

we learn that the playwright and actor Harold Pinter is to

make a rare TV appearance in the forthcoming BBCl war-

time drama Count Me In: Breaking The Code.

serials, is to appear in the

Beeb's new costume drama Nostromo. His character, a

mine owner, is axed to death

three minutes into the first

episode. Nothing symbolic in

• It looks as if Martyn Lewis. the BBC news anchorman

who has long campaigned for

more good news on television.

is finally to get his chance. For the first time, Lewis is to

present all of the Beeb's news

bulletins on Christmas Day.

History frisson

that, we are sure.

Meanwhile Michael Wearing, head of BBC drama Beyond the black box waits the television-computer

Who's afraid of the market giants?

BRENDA

wry joke goes. And the joke is wrong. A Nothing is so murky as the past. What does gleam crystal-clear is the future.

The current apocalyptic hysteria about the black box to sit on the television set and give h digital capability is an example of 20:20 foresight. What is in dispute is the form of control of the smartcard technology that gives access to the hundreds of oew digital channels. The dispute is based on two assumptions: that who controls the black box has absolute cootrol over the gateway to the futore and that when all these channels become available. British consumers will lap them up.

Neither of these assumptions is certain. Let me try to throw a few shafts of darkness

into the light The reason why BSkyB dominates the satellite market altogether is because Home Office policy in the early 1980s directed British investors to invest in the wrong kind of satellite. By the time reality intervened and it became clear in the late 1980s that a much more modest kind of satellite, already operating from Luxembourg, would do the job as well, billions had been wasted. A merger between BSB, the holder of the bythen useless licence to broadcast satellite television direct to British homes, and the viable Luxem-

bourg-based operation, Sky Television (part-ly owned by News loternational, owner of The Times) was the logical way out.

But BSkyB's subscription sports and movie channels would not have had such a smooth entry into Britain had another government policy worked out. Early in the 1980s, the Department of Trade and Indus-try saw with blinding clarity that Britain should and would be wired up for cable television by the end of the decade. Pay-TV and a host of electronic informational delights would ride over the cable into the home. Satellite lelevision would make its way as an extra option, mainly in rural areas where cable did not reach.

But, under the then Chancellor Nigel Lawson, the Government got cold feet and withdrew the tax concessions to cable. Lo and behold, British investors then shied away from the enormously heavy investment cable required. Thus the new market for subscription television was left for BSkyB, which had successfully developed its own form of encryption, or smartcard, technology for decoding channels and billing subscribers.

These episodes are part of a long-running tragicomedy of errors of British policy attempts to direct the development of new technology. Entitled "Picking Winners", it includes the tales of the Comet and Concorde aircraft and the electronic telephone exchange. The show has not ended. ers to develop their own version of digital is his female counterbalance.

television, the Department of National Heritage last year came up with rules as fussy and over-detailed as a Madonna dress. Surprise, surprise. Enthusiasm for digital terrestrial has been low, while panic about BSkyB's plans to push ahead with digital satellite has been high.

That is not to say that the DTI's efforts to prevent BSkyB from having monopoly control over access to digital encryption technology have been a waste of time. The draft legislation as it now stands safeguards the rights of the BBC and other competitors to put their own digital channels out through

But the urgency is misplaced. There is no certainty that the public wants to make the investment to get all the extra digital channels. Digital television has got off to a very slow start in Germany. Many people in

Britain, where the majority of the viewing public does not take satellite television, may very well choose to sit back and wait for the next leap forward. For there will be one. The set-top box is not the last door to the future. In time, all the necessary digital bits and pieces will be incorporated inside the television set, which will serve as a computer and give access to the Internet as well

Anyway, there exists an alterna-**MADDOX** tive point of entry into digital television. Cable television, belatedly coming within reach of most urban homes, will offer its own set-top box. over

which it alone will control access.

The competitor that the cable people are keeping their eye on is BT. If rumours are true that BT may try to join with BSkyB to subsidise the distribution of digital set-top boxes, the cable industry will run hotfoot to Oftel. It knows that Don Cruikshank, Oftel's formidable director-general, takes a dim view of market giants. He would not like to see two joining up.

y candidate for Media Manipulation of the Year has to go to The Trial of Kevin Maxwell, the rosy lelevision portrait of Kevin and Pandora Maxwell and their adorable brood last

This long piece of hagiography looked like the BBC's long-prepared attempt to be seen to offer balance to its hostile Inside Story Special: Maxwell — The Downfall.

All the same, "The Maxwells" made

riveting television. One superbly edited moment showed Kevin sitting comfortably on the sofa with his dog, watching television. when his wife, the fierce, blue-eyed Pandora. entered and snapped a furious command to leave the dog alone. Kevin simply put his hand on her shoulder, squeezed it in a "there, there" manner and returned his eyes to the screen.

How does a man survive a father as

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MARKETING ASSISTANT - LONDON

any leap forward after its

conversion to a seven-day

Although under rejuvenated editorship, The Independent

is also losing ground. As sales

of The Guardian remain above 400,000, The Indepen-

dent's have fallen by 32,000 (II

per cent) in the past year. As The Observer meanwhile registered its highest sale this

year of 467,000, sales of the

Independent on Sunday have

Even without the boost ob-

tained from its Eurostar pro-

motion, sales of The Times

would have been running at

about 100,000 higher than a

year ago. As it was, year-on-year sales were up by 189,000, and up by 78,000 on October.

biggest November sale for 16

slumped by 47,000.

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THE LISTENER

Circulation battle goes to tribunal

THE spat between the Telegraph group and the Audit Bureau of Circulations - over whether copies of the daily paper sold under its special El per week subscription offer counted as full-price sales came as no surprise to former Telegraph employee Tony

Mr Gearing, formerly depu-ty editor of The Weekly Telegraph, the Telegraph's overseas edition, alleges the company has made inflated circulation claims for the title. in 1993, The Weekly Telegraph issued a media pack to advertisers claiming a circulation of 153,116. Mr Gearing counters that the figure never rose above 50,000.

He will make the allega-tions al an industrial tribunal in the new year, where he will claim that he lost his job after he repeatedly complained

about the issue. Jeremy Deedes, the managing director of the Telegraph, said: This man has had a long running dispute with the Telegraph since he was dismissed as a member of staff."

latest screen appearance, in Samson and Delilah, was of a new age of shipbuilders, panned by the American critical screen talent? Following news that its production supremo Alan Yentob is to present an



Liz Hurley and Hugh Grant critics are not impressed

ics ("Among the greatest unintended comic creations of film"). Now, her first foray into production seems to have left her in a spin. Extreme Measures, a medical thriller starring Hugh Grant, is the first project from Simian Films, the couple's development company. But the plot appears to have bamboozled the Estèe Lauder model.

"I found the moral intricacies of the script so complex that even now, two years after reading the first draft, I still can't decide where I stand on the ethical issues."

Big in Japan Poor Liz Hurley. First her 18 the Titanic, the luxury

Hollywood? A new version of the story by director James Cameron is rumoured to be running well over its \$125 million budget.

Such news should come as no surprise to Lord (Lew) Grade, whose 1980s Raise the Titanic was said to have created huge losses for his company, ITC. I remarked at the time that it would have been cheaper to lower the Atlantic than lo raise the Titanic," Lord Grade said. "But that was just a joke. In fact it was the oumber one grossing film in Japan."

In on the act HAS the BBC run out of on-

RESEARCH by MAG, the Museums and Galleries' Magazine, claims that museums are more likely to make your heart leap than The magazine wired up a fit

young man to a heart monitor. His heartrate increased by six while watching The X-Files, by seven when witnessing the shooting of Ian Beale in East-Enders and by ten when viewing Basic Instinct.

But these figures were easily outstripped by a visit to the Natural History Museum which stirred a rise m

Jest in 150

NEWS

War declared on 'cheating' Tories

Labour and the Liberal Democrats have refused to cooperate with the Government in all future Commons divisions after accusing it of cheating in Monday's fishing vote.

The spectre of ministers regularly being dragged back to Westminster from overseas visits and sick MPs being wheeled in for crucial votes throughout the final months of the present parliament faced ministers after the opposition parties announced they were ending "pairing" deals

Saunders trial 'was unfair'

Two hundred fraud prosecutions appeared to be at risk after the European Court of Human Rights ruled that the trial of the former Guinness chief Ernest Saunders was unfair. The court said that evidence Mr Saunders was forced to give during a City investigation should not have been used............ Pages 1, 4

Jackal questioned

British police questioned the jailed terrorist known as Carlos the Jackal in Paris over the shooting of a former Marks & Spencer chairman and the bombing of a London bank in the early .Page 1

IRA case decision

Michael Howard said that the cases of 14 convicted IRA terrorists would not be reopened following an investigation into explosives contamination at a government laboratory Page 2

Judge's anger

A senior judge attacked the "paper lust" of legal bureaucrats The judge expressed astonishment that charges had not been brought earlier.

Schoolgirl killer

A brooding college misfit who raped and murdered a schoolgirl after stalking her for months was inadvertently exposed by his mother. ...Page 3

Street fighting

An attempt by ITV to boost the flagging ratings of Coronation Street by launching a fourth weekly episode is failing in the face of opposition from BBCI's Antiques Roadshow Page 5

Hands-on surgery

Toes make an excellent substitute when transplanted on to hands without fingers, a surgeon's study Page 6

Classrooms row

Popular schools should open annexes in neighbouring schools which have empty places, the Audit Commission said in a report which sparked a row over the Government's claims to have expanded parental choice Page 8

River pollution Flounders living in the Tyne estu-

ary are apparently changing sex because of industrial pollution. according to a new study of male fish which shows that 94 per cent have signs of feminisationPage 9

Red Cross victims

Aid organisations ordered an emergency evacuation of their staff from Chechnya, after gunmen using silenced weapons murdered six Red Cross ... Page 10

Mobutu returns

President Mobutu of Zaire returned to Kinshasa after months of cancer treatment in Europe to confront his toughest political task - how to prevent the breakup of the vast country Page II

The Clintons have been forced to repay £400,000 in questionable Asian donations that were intend-

Clinton repayment

ed to help in settling the costs of ... Page 12 scandals... Juppé defence Alain Juppé, the French Prime

Minister, laid bare his inner tur-

..... Page 13

moil in a book......

Two-colour technology for £2

■ The Treasury unveiled Britain's first two-colour coin, a £2 piecen with a design tracing technological development from the Iron Age to the Internet. The reverse of the £2 coin, to go into circulation next November, was designed by an art teacher. The obverse bears the portrait of the Queen by Raphael Maklouf featured on existing coinage.



Russian fishermen try their luck on the ice-covered surface of the Moscow river yesterday after a heavy snowfall

BUSINESS

Barings: The Bank of England's handling of the Barings collapse came under fire today from allparty MPs sitting oo the Treasury .. Page 23

Economy: Government borrowing totalled £2.6 billion in November, with continuing overruns in public spending being disguised by proceeds from the sale of Ministry of Defence married quarters. Page 23 Sheffield United become the sixth

football club to join the stock market today when they reveal a £21.5 million reverse takeover of Conrad, the leisurewear group best known for Le Coq SportifPage 23 Markets: FT-SE fell 14.2 to 3979.6. Sterling rose from 93.7 to 94.0 after

rises from \$1.6615 to \$1.6718 and

DM2.5811 to DM2.5841 Page 26

SPORT

Cricket: Michael Atherton will break the England record previously held by Peter May, when he leads his country for the 36th time in succession in the inaugural Test against Zimbabwe Page 44 Motor racing: Nigel Mansell effect-

ively brought down the curtain on his Formula One career when he turned down the chance to compete in a Jordan-Peugeot Page 44 National stadium: Manchester City will have to move from Maine Road to a proposed 60,000-seat sta-

dium to ensure that it is built in the Rugby unloss The entire league programme in Wales on Saturday is in doubt after the referees' society threatened to strike over

General: rain will spread across

England and Wales from the west, clearing the east coast in the afternoon. It will be followed by brighter,

mainly dry weather. Mild. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have rain at

times, but brighter weather will spread

across most parts, except northern Scotland. Breezy in north, where it will be cold. Mild elsewhere.

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land, Lake District, Central N England, NE England, Borders, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyli:

cloudy. Rain, heavy at times, moving east, followed by brighter, drier conditions. Wind fresh, SE, becoming

Hollywood heroine: Jessica Lange talks about making her West Enddebut in the "inexhaustible" role of Blanche DuBois in Tennessee Williams's classic Streetcar Named ... Page 35

Reve revival: Broadway may not be at its healthiest these days, but the revival of Kander and Ebb's courtroom musical Chicago is one of the highlights of the New York theatre seasonPage 35

Treesured books: A new study of Michelangelo is among the sumptuous art history books which have arrived in the shops for Christmas... ...Page 36

Pop reunion: Chrissie Hynde reconvenes the Pretenders for a gig in north London that was only partially successful

学生更明显的是一个

IN THE TIMES

Geoff Brown reviews

other new releases

Enoch Powell on a

new biblical analysis,

Roger Scruton on the

morality of shooting and

light, SW. Max 12C (54F).

Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, Isle of Man, N Ireland: rain soon clearing, then mostly dry with bright intervals. Wind mainly light, S or SW. Max 11C (52F).

Edinburgh & Dundee, Moray Firth. Orkney: cloudy rain at times.

Firth, Orkney: cloudy, rain at times, becoming heavier. Wind SE, fresh to strong, turning E later. Max 8C (48F).

Li Aberdeen, Central Highlands, NE Scotland, NW Scotland: rain, heavy at times. Snow later on hills.

Wind SE, mostly strong. Max 8C (46F).

Shetland: rain dying out, some

Outlook rain dying out in north. Dry in south but rain later.

bright spells developing. Wifresh to strong, Max 4C (39F).

FILM

■ BOOKS

fishing

still very careful about what they reveal at parties.... Page 14. Wrong taste: The president of the Epicurean World Master Chefs' Society - a Frenchman - has apparently hailed Britain as the gastronomic centre of the world. Reality, says Nigella Lawson, is rather different ... ___ Page 15 Wise women: Do women think more deeply than men, asks Mag-

Bare cheek: Intelligent women are

nus Linklater Page 15

Millions at stake: Brian MacArthur on the advertising millions that hang on the in-fighting between newspaper groups .. Page 21 Black comedy: The panic about a black box on the TV set to give it digital capability is misplaced, says

Greece: How the poorest State in the European Union plans to im-.. Pages 31-34 prove itself.....

Madonna in Evita, plus PERSONAL PROPERTY. At the lowest point in the polls, M.

Juppe has chosen to fight his unpopularity, not with his policies but with his personality. He humanises himself by way of his pen in order to popularise his public acdoubts and private hurts

- Le Monde

Preview: Documenting a year-old strike. Modern Times: The Flickering Flame (BBC2, 9pm). Review: Matthew Bond on a drama plagued with non sequiturs ... Page 43

Whipped senseless

Coming so soon after the revival of sleaze in the public mind, this merely reinforces the image of an administration that is prepared to put morality aside if it proves inconvenient...

Admissable evidence

Uncomfortable though it may be to accept, the Strasbourg judges are right and Mr Saunders's rights have been infringed Page 17

Entre nous

Alain Juppé's passionate cri from a wounded coeur must rank as one of the most bizarre pleas of postwar politics, the living exemplar of the heat-sensitive person who, Harry Truman believed, should best get out of the kitchen

SIMON JENKINS

Laurens van der Post did not just idealise the Bushmen: he used them to champion the diversity of human beings and the fragility of their dependence on nature. He lead the movement to understand and, when they wish for it, protect endangered peoples Page 16

ROBERT SKIDELSKY A regulatory framework is as nec-

essary in education as in business. But it is a mistake to believe that it is through regulation that the beights are scaled. The importance of Mr Blair's subversive idea lies in this recognition. It breaks free from the strategy of trying to force schools to raise standards by strangling them with red tape... Page 16 SIMON BARNES

There are echoes of pantomime everywhere in sport. Sport fulfils our need for triumph and disaster but it cannot do so without also becoming a traditionally ludicrous aspect of everyday life..... Page 42

Quentin Bell, artist and writer; Ruby Murray, singer, Brian Tetley, journalist _____Page 19

Child labour: Thames bridge; Court; Lincoln Cathedral; Falklands; Wirral by-election... Page 17

Treat receive

flatter PSB

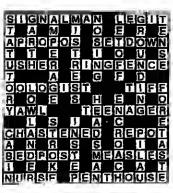
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,354

ACROSS

- I Plot main crime with leading criminals (10).
- 6 In work, ring Douglas's pet? (4). 9 Many really like a problem, one of the knotty sort (5.5).
- 10 High point in game same save repeated (4).
- 12 Live dangerously, and enjoy games and matches? (4.4.4). 15 Followers burst out in anger (9).
- ber, a Liberal (5). 2 18 Pound up front - moderate rent

17 Constitutional product of mem-

- 19 Preserve a politician liable to change abruptly (9). 20 Half of MCC ruined by ill-judged
- charge? (5,7). 24 Whip-round for the old statesman
- Solution to Puzzle No 20,353



- 25 Breaking away from rest in a race
- stupid! (4). 27 What reader may need first - to
- get cuttings? (5-5).
- 1 Prepare to shoot a fowl (4). 2 Lacking go-ahead, retreat (4).
- 3 Bridges, for example, necessary to operate a lute (4,8).
- 4 Having bad weather, though there's a little sunshine round 5 Red ridge in black rock (9).
- 7 Tailor looking out for lady wanting dress (7.3). 8 Arrange piano music for live
- entertainment (5,5). 11 Traditional way to teach rhymes
- 13 Socially privileged, like an Oxford don's three sisters (4-6). 14 Not inclined to be trustworthy (8-2).
- 16 A motorist beginning in one country or another (9). 21 You could take an iron for one of these birdies (5).
- 22 Accurately reproducing guy's rhymes (2-2). 23 Joiot support for proposer? (4).

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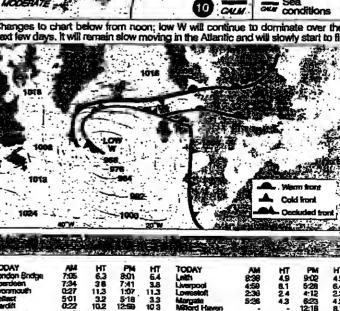
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COMON BARNES



ARTS

Jessica Lange rides her Streetcar to the West End **PAGES 35-37**



HOMES

Churches come up for sale in Chiantishire **PAGE 38**



SPORT

Mansell brings down curtain on Formula One **PAGES 39-44**

> that, although banks were different from securides firms,

> the organisations are converg-

ing and supervision may go

The MPs said that it would improve co-ordination in reg-

ulation if responsibility was

put under one Government

department, and recommend-

ed that the Treasury, not the Department of Trade and

Industry, was given the role.

To date there has been only

one casualty at the Bank of England, Christopher Thomp-

son, who resigned in the

The report was critical of the

This would avoid any real or

apparent conflict of interest."

said the report. This was not

accepted by the Bank, those it

regulates or the accountants. Coopers said: "This only

adds value in exceptional cases. We do not accept that

case." Coopers added that that

the real issue was that, al-

sets the broad guidelines for a

The Bridsh Banking Associ-

the same way.

summer of 1995.

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES** 42, 43

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18 1996

MPs recommend DTI be deprived of financial supervision role

Bank attacked over Barings

AND GAVIN LUMSDEN

AN ALL-PARTY committee of MPs yesterday attacked the Bank of England over its role in the collapse of Barings in February 1995 and said that, unless it changes the way it operates, banking regulation should be taken away from the

The report of the Treasury Select Committee, which took 13 months to complete but had to be published a day early because of leaks, also attacks the auditors of Barings, the Securities & Futures Authority (SFA) and questions the effectiveness of international coordination when it comes to supervising financial markets. It also recommends that, as soon as possible, all regulation of the financial markets is taken away from the Department of Trade and Industry and given to the Treasury.

But the main attack of the report, which was only signed by three members of the committee, Barry Legge, Nigel Forman and Diane Abbott, is on the Bank. The MPs take the view that the Bank's closeness to the institutions it regulates, and because of its proximity to the day-to-day banking market, is an impediment to

effective regulation. The MPs described the Bank as a "cheerleader for the City" and in a final line, which dation, only a comment. How Michael Foot, the Bank's di- seething about the comments rector of banking supervision. the report says that to "bring about the necessary cultural. change, banking supervision ket, a role that is unique will have to be taken away from the Bank of England."





The Bank was at pains to Bank's statute, which defines one of its roles as making sure that the financial infrastruc-ture of the City is in place. The say this was not a recommen-Bank sees this as a role of the MPs, who it feels do not completely at odds with the idea that it could be a "cheerunderstand the Bank's special role in the UK financial marleader" for any particular

among leading financial regulators. Officials pointed to the The MPs attacked the Bank

Michael Foot, head of supervision, a role MPs suggest may come to an end regulation of Barings and said there was a question of "too many cooks". It records that gained "limited assistance" from the Bank and suspects that the two regulators were working in competition rather than co-ordination, adding

concerns in this respect". Though the Bank does not man said: "We have long recognised that there is a need for improved regulatory coordination and, since the collapse of Barings, we have been

Since Nick Leeson, a rogue dealer, caused the collapse of por of the Bank, has joined the the lead regulator for financial Large, chairman of the SIB.

any real conflict of interest exists where this is not the 223-year-old Barings, Howpaying the auditor. Securites & Investment Board, markets, and Sir Andrew has joined the Board of Banking Supervision. In a speech

ation was concerned that the move could raise auditing costs without adding value. Many Section 39 reports costs over £250,000 and one is believed to have cost £750,000. The Bank also expressed

an external accountant in to report would lose the closeness and knowledge of the bank that the auditor had.

Pennington, page 25

BUSINESS TODAY

role of Coopers & Lybrand, the auditors of Barings. A key recommendation of the MPs is SS S DOLLAR

accountants than the auditors. Tokyo close Yen 113.74

Brent 15-day (Mar) \$23.20 (\$23.85)

denotes midday trading price

MPs leave questionmark How they reacted to the over future of regulators

The Bank of England's at times there may be too The auditors, Coopers & future role: "The Bank needs many cooks, and those with Lybrand: "One of the key to demonstrate that is is able to separate its supervisory functions from its other functions and avoid any possible weakening of its regulatory effectiveness due to its proximity to the day to day banking market. Otherwise it may be that in order to bring about the necessary cultural change banking supervision will have to be taken away from the Bank of England."

The Bank's co-ordinating role: "We are concerned that

front line expertise may be excluded from international discussions. Furthermore, we remain surprised that the Bank, as lead regulator of Barings, did not co-ordinate

the response."

The Securities & Futures Authority: "We note with concern that a visit to Barings was conducted by the SFA in January 1995 and that the lack of internal controls and management weaknesses went

checks, that of the auditors, upon which shareholders should be able to rely, failed over a oumber of years to reveal weak internal controls and resulting unauthorised

behaviour." The Treasury's role: "Ministerial responsibility for all aspects of financial regulation and supervision, including the prudential supervision of the insurance industry, should be transferred to HM Treasury at the earliest opportunity."

that the evidence of Eddie working hard at ways of George, the Governor of the taking that forward." that the evidence of Eddie

findings of the report

and we welcome it as a constructive contribution to the debate." Coopers & Lybrand: "We were not responsible for the collapse of Barings. It col-lapsed because of management failure. That is why we have issued proceedings against nine former directors and employees."

report identifies some of the

dilemmas that face regulators

of the difficulties that face all financial regulators." Tim Yeo, Conservative MP for South Suffolk and former chairman of the Treasury

Select Committee: "We must ensure that the Bank of England overhauls its approach to supervision or that responsi-The Securites & Futures Au-

bility should be given to another body.

The Bank needs to revise its role fundamentally. While we have not set a timetable for

the Bank to take action, we would like to see a positive reaction from the Governor."

The Bank of England didn't give information to the Singapore inspectors represented by Price Waterhouse. This obvi-ously caused a lot of bad feeling. Eddie George denied the problem existed. We weren't convinced."

The British Bankers Associ-ation said that the failure of Barings could be seen as a success of the system.

that a bank can never fail," it

"You shouldn't guarantee

Nadir aide refused bail

ELIZABETH FORSYTH

the former Asil Nadir aide serving five years in prison for handling stolen funds, has failed in an attempt to be released on bail pend-ing an appeal next month. The court bail application by Forsyth, 59, came. six months after her conviction on two counts of handling £400,000 stolen from Polly Peck International. Her counsel argued for her release from an open prison near Rochester, Kent, on health grounds. Forsyth has had a worrying rise in bloodpressure and is concerned

Selloff proceeds flatter PSBR

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent

GOVERNMENT borrowing totalled £2.6 billion in November, with continuing overruns in public spending being dis-guised by proceeds from the sale of Ministry of Defence married quarters.

The Public Sector Borrowing Requirement was exactly in line with City expectations. which broadly endorses the Treasury's view that it is on track to meet its £26.4 billion projection for the whole year. Cumulative borrowing over the first eight months totalled £13.9 billion, compared with £22.4 billion over the same

period last year. Taking out

privatisation proceeds, the improvement has been less dra-matic, but still marked. This year, cumulative borrowing has totalled £17.8 billion, against £22.4 billion last year.

Public spending is 35 per cent higher than a year ago once the MoD sale is stripped hopes of containing it at growth of around 2.25 per Government's accounting.

out - against the Chancellor's cent. The MoD sale counts as negative" spending in the However, disappointment on spending is being made up

for by healthier than expected

Strike vote at Lloyds TSB

thority: "The report is wel-

come as an acknowledgement

WORKERS at Lloyds TSB have voted in favour of taking strike action in protest at the bank's decision to open branches until 4.30pm on Christmas Eve. The Banking Insurance and Finance Union balloted 18,000 of Lloyds TSB's 40,000 staff. Sixty five per cent of the 37 per cent who voted, voted in favour of strike action on

Christmas Eve. The bank said: "We are a retailer. All other retailers are open on Christmas Eve. so we should be open. Only about 4,000 of the staff voted in favour. Most of our staff have an interest in serving our customers."

Pennington, page 25

Sheffield United joins stock market

By JASON NISSE

SHEFFIELD UNITED will become the sixth football club to join the stock market today when it reveals a £21.5 million reverse takeover of Conrad, the leisurewear group best known for Le Coq Sportif.

Conrad is paying E9.5 mil-lion for the Nationwide First Division dub and the combined group will immediately launch a EIZ million rights issue to fund development of United's ground at Bramhall Lane in central Sheffield.

The plan is to create a 40,000 all-seat stadium and develop the 17-acre site where

United is situated. United also hopes to be promoted to the Premiership and is offering share incentives to Howard Kendall, its football manager, and some of the players if they achieve this.

The deal has been on the cards for two months, but was held up while a deal was struck to buy out a 10 per cent stake in United owned by Stephen Hinchliffe, the businessman whose collapsed Facia empire is being investigated by the Serious Fraud Office.

Mike McDonald, the Manchester businessman who took control of United two years ago, will be non-executive chairman of the quoted company, to be renamed Sheffield

Charles Green, the chief executive of United, will take that post in the quoted company, while lan Townsend, Conrad's finance director, will keep his position. Mike Edelson, Conrad's

chief executive, is stepping

down because of a conflict of interest, being a main board director of Manchester United. However, he will remain involved for some time, large-

ly to negotiate property deals.

that reports under Section 39 of the Banking Act, which are conducted at the request of the Bank when it has concerns about a financial institution which it regulates, should be done by a seperate firm of

MORTH SEA Off.

BOLD London close \$368.95 (\$367.55)

On the rails

though the Bank of England More than 100,000 pensioners could sue for their share of a £500 million left to the bank, which is surplus in the British Rail pension fund. Aslef and RMT, the railway workers' unions, said they would be prepared 10 take legal action to recover money they regarded as due

Metal bashing concern about the cost of the reports and whether bringing

FKI, the engineering group. launched a hostile bid for Newman Tonks after winning the support of the largest investors of the building materials group. Page 25, Tempos 26



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Building workers get fired up for new year 18 per cent of those surveyed.

By PHILIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

about her elderly mother

YOU MAY WANT a winter holiday. Your children may want a games computer. John Major and Tony Blair both want to be Prime Minister. But, in the new year, what do many of Britain's construction workers want? They want to

With Christmas out of the way, January is a traditional

pushed out towards the dole queue. However, as the festive season approaches, a new survey shows that, in the building industry at least, some employees thoughts are turning to the sack - giving it,

alises in the construction and

property industries, surveyed a sample of 560 employees work-

Hays Montrose, the recruitof would-be sackers is higher ment consultant, which speci-

ing in building about what they wanted in the new year. More than half want a pay rise, and more than a third are thinking about switching job. However, as many as 14 per cent of those surveyed are looking forward to firing someone - perhaps anyone. In Scotland, the proportion

still, at 22 per cent, and even

on the more sedate South

Coast of England, firers total

In the sedate Home Cournies, the figure drops to 13 per cent, and in the phlegmatic Midlands only 6 per cent of construction employees want to fire someone. Robin Smith, managing

director of Hays Montrose, said: "Although, at 14 per cent, the desire to fire someone was relatively low on the scale of still a surprisingly large mi-

the tightly-run property and construction companies of the 1990s, people are not prepared to put up with anyone who does not pull their weight." Curiously, four-fifths of the workers surveyed say they ex-

pect the jobs situation in the construction industry to be "significantly" better in 1997 than this year. Unless, of course, those aching to axe someone get

July 60 150

News Corp in Japan venture

The News Corporation and Softbank of Japan yesterday launched Japan Sky Broadcasting, a television company that will provide the platform for hundreds of new digital satellite channels.

News Corp. parent com-pany of The Times, and Softbank, Japan's largest computer software publisher, own an equal share in JSkyB, which is to begin broadcasting in April 1998.

The two companies are also to create a joint venture called Sky Entertainment, which has applied to broadcast 12 channels on the JSkyB satellite. Sky Entertainment will be owned 19.9 per cent by News Corp and 80.1 per cent by Softbank.

Digital TV rules changed

The Government has am-ended its digital television regulations to include tougher safeguards against anti-competitive behaviour in the supply of conditional

The regulations, laid before Parliament yesterday, require potential digital television service entrants such as BSkyB to provide fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory access to all operators before its own services are up and run-ning. BSkyB is 40-per cent owned by News Interna-tional, owner of The Times.

Jobs forecast

Britain's small firms are unlikely to be the principal source of sustained oew jobs, a study from the Employment Policy Insti-tute, the jobs think-tank. says today.

Job promises, page 27

Firms merge Cameron Markby Hewitt and McKenna & Co. two of the City's leading law firms, are to merge. Cameroo Me-Kenna will be the UK's

eighth-largest law firm. Costain deal

Costain has won a £30 million contract to build a railway eogineering work-shop and associated housing in Malaysia.



Sir Paul Nicholson, Vaux chairman, yesterday when he unveiled full-year profits up 9 per cent to £35 million

Pensioners may sue over BR fund's £500m surplus

By MARIANNE CURPHEY AND JONATHAN PRYNN

MORE than 100,000 pensioners could sue for their share of a £500 million surplus in the British Rail pension fund, it

emerged yesterday.
Aslef and RMT, the railway workers' unions, said that they would be prepared to take legal action to recover money they regarded as due to pensioners. Aslef claimed that one privatised company, Connex South Central, was already considering withdrawing con-

MISYS, the computer soft-

ware and services company.

yesterday announced acquisi-

tions in America and France worth an initial £36.6 million

Summit Systems, a private company based in New York

that sells integrated financial

(Martin Barrow writes). The company is buying

scheme. Connex confirmed last night that the company's pension committee would look at the issue, but said it was currently being drawn up and had not yet started talks with the fund.

Save Our Railways, the campaign group, complained that privatised rail firms would be able to use the surplus from the pension fund to boost profits or take pensions "holidays". The £500 million surplus accumulated after the fund made a number

Misys buys in US and France

It is also buying Quotient France SA, which supplies

Summit products to European

acquiring Finance Informa-tion et Technologie, which

owns 31.6 per cent of Summit

and 40 per cent of Ouotient.

Summit private investors own the rest: Misvs already holds

To effect the plan Misys is

capital markets.

size of the surplus became tired before 1994 will not be the value of the £8 billion 100,000 who have retired since pension fund by the Governthen could receive fewer benement Actuary's Department. fits if the entire surplus is distributed to shareholders.

The Government denied claims that it was sanctioning Sir George said he believed it was perfectly in order for any surplus to be shared a pensions "sweetener" for the privatised rail companies. Sir George Young, Transport Sec-retary, said that railway penbetween members and employers. "What has traditionsion funds would remain ally happened is that the under the management of an surplus has been split 60:40 independent trustee company, between the employer and employee - privatisation has not changed that." he said. which must agree how any surplus is distributed. About

million in long-term incentive

payments to certain Summit

pre-tax profits and Quotient

£1.8 million in the year to the

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However, Save Our Rail-ways said the rail companies would be pocketing cash that should have been used to improve pensions and benefits for existing staff and future pensioners. Peter Rayner, chairman of the British Trans-60 per cent of Quotient. Misys has agreed to pay up to £11.2 port Pensioners Federation. said pensioners should benefit. and Quotient employees if the business fulfills targets over the next three years. In 1995 Summit earned £2.4 million Jimmy Knapp, General-Sec-retary of the RMT, said it would consider whatever ac-

tion was necessary to defend

Vaux in talks over non-core assets

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

SIR PAUL NICHOLSON. the chairman of Vaux Group. yesterday said that the brewing and hotel company was in negotiations to sell non-core assets but was not prepared to make disposals at any price.

Vaux has put its aursing home division and five small er botels, with a total book value of about £50 million, on the market. :

The company yesterday unveiled a 9 per cent increase in its full-year profits, to £35 million. Turnover also rose by 9 per cent, to £282 million. Profits of Swallow Hotels rose by 22 per cent, to £24 mil-lion, with occupancy up from

67.8 per cent to 71.7 per cent. Vaux said that it planned to add 300 rooms to the 30strong hotel chain by building new hotels in Liverpool and Huntingdon. The company aims to invest £21 mil-lioo on upgrading Swallow sites this year.

The brewery division raised its profits by 26 per cent, to £4.5 million, after a reorganisation that resulted in major cost savings. Own-brand beer sales rose by 1 per cent overall, but margins in the free pub and club market cootinued to suffer from heavy discouoting. Vaux said that its oew brands. Lambton's bitter and the smooth brew version of Double Maxim, had started well and were benefiting from £3

million of advertising.

The managed pub division,
which includes 165 pubs, Increased profits by 17 per cent. to £9 millioo. Vaux aims to increase its managed pubs by 25 this year, including five oew builds.

Profits from the 700-strong tenanted pub estate fell by 12 per cent, to £12.9 million, because of heavy investment, although the company said that it should benefit from the

expenditure this year. Sir Paul said that current year trading has started well and that all the businesses

have good prospects.

The total dividend is being increased by 4 per cent, to 10.6p. A final dividend of 7.04p s payable on February 6. Vaux shares fell 5p. to close at 25212p.

pensioners' interests. Fairey makes surprise bid

BY MARITN BARROW

for Burnfield

FAIREY GROUP, the industrial electronics and specialist engineering company, has launched a surprise £51.1 million takeover bid for Burnfield, the engineering

Burnfield, whose chairman is Brian McGowan, urged shareholders to reject the offer, setting the scene for an acrimonious takeover battle. Fairey's bid is conditional

on Burnfield shareholders voting against the proposed £24



McGowan: urges rejection

million purchase of Ling Dynamics and accompanying E20.3 million rights issue. These were announced on Friday and an extraordinary meeting has been convened for December 30.

Fairey wants to combine its existing process technology businesses with Beta and Malvern. Burnfield's two main subsidiaries.

However, Fairey contends that the Ling purchase will be heavily dilutive and serve as a digression from Burnfield's existing businesses.

Fairey is offering one new share for every four Burnfield shares, valuing each Bornfield share at 145.9p. There is a full cash alternative of 135p. Burnfield investors will also receive the final dividend of 2.2p a share as forecast by the

company.

Burnfield shares rose 36p to 136p yesterday. The shares had fallen from ttt2p since Friday in response to the rights issue of new shares at 90p each. Fairey shares fell 12p to 582p yesterday. Mr McGowan, who holds

about a million Burnfield shares, said that Fairey was offering a knockdown price.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Higgs and Hill sells its construction arm

A PREMIER league of contractors in UK construction is squeezing out medium-sized companies. John Theakston, chief executive of Higgs and Hill, the construction, property and homes company, said yesterday as it announced the sale of its troubled construction division to Hollandsche Beton Groep, of The Netherlands, for £28.5 million, subject to shareholders' approval. Higgs and Hill is set to receive only En million from the sale, after balances between the two companies are settled.

Mr Theakston said the division, which had turnover of £292

million last year, could not compete with international firms for UK contracts without major financial backing. The division last year had losses of £8.3 million, and exceptional costs of E7.1 million; the sale will let it seek contracts as part of Hollandsche Beton's British operations, whose turnover is about £500 million a year. After the sale, Higgs and Hill will call itself Swan Hill, and focus on its profitable property and homes divisions, including Carter Commercial Developments.

Kunick takes half stake

KUNICK, the gaming company, is paying £3.4 million for a 50 per cent stake in Bell-Fruit Manufacturing. Gauselmann, the German amusement machine company, is buying the other half. Kunick, which is the largest purchaser of gaming machines in the UK, also reported a 10 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £9:1 million in the year to September 30. Turnover rose 19 per cent to £119 million. The total dividend rises 17 per cent to 0.7p a share with a final dividend of 0.4p,

Novartis deal approved

AMERICA'S Federal Trade Commission has ruled that Ciba-Geigy and Sandoz can merge to form the world's secondlargest pharmaceuticals group if they sell certain businesses. Novartis, the name of the merged Swiss companies, will be exceeded in size only by Glaxo Wellcome. The FTC requires Novartis to sell or license products in three areas in which Ciba and Sandoz overlapped. Sandoz's North American corn herbicide operation is to be the largest sale, at \$780 million.

Mersey strike offer

THE Mersey Docks and Harbour Company has made an ultimate closing offer to 329 sacked dockers, in the latest attempt to end a 15-month dispute, of £25,000 severance payment or the chance to apply for one of up to 40 jobs in the port. They will also be given a special £3,000 payment for a 12-week fixed contract of employment during which they will not have to work. The dockers have been given until December 31 to conduct a secret ballot on the offer.

Eurotherm on lookout

EUROTHERM will focus on acquisitions as part of a strategic review, after last summer's boardroom clash. With cash balances of £34 million, the electronics manufacturer has pronounced itself "able to grasp opportunities should they arise". In the year to October 31, pre-tax profits rose to £37.7 million (£34.1 million) and earnings per share grew 10 per cent to 27.6p. The dividend was increased to 9p (7.5p). with a 5p final due on February 28.

Sherwood shares hit

SHARES of Sherwood Group, the clothing manufacturer, fell 30 per cent to a five-year low of 41 p yesterday after the company issued its second profit warning in six months. Pre-tax profits in the second half are set to be well below the £3.75 million reported in September for the first half. Full-year profits will include £3.1 million reorganisation costs, £2.3 million of which will be in the second half. The company plans to maintain the total dividend for the year at the 1995 level of 3.6p.

Aberdeen 'squeezes' fees

ABERDEEN TRUST saw a 26 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £7 million for the year to September 30 but said it had squeezed as much income from fund management fees as was possible. It would now have to exploit opportunities for growth in the US. Singapore and the UK. The loss of £120 million Lloyd's funds to Equitas meant overall funds under management grew £137 million to £2,84 billion. A final dividend of 2.2p, payable March 5, is 28 per cent higher.

UB sells Ross for £44m

MANAGERS of the Ross frozen vegetables firm have bought the business from United Biscuits for £44 million. They have formed a new company, RVP Foods, which is supported by the private equity arm of the Union Bank of Switzerland. Proceeds from the sale will be used to repay United Biscuits' borrowings. Last year. Ross had sales of £56.1 million and operating profits of £6.2 million. It has net assets of £11.4 million. The disposal will lead to a write-off of £51 million.

Coats Viyella lifted

SHARES of Coats Viyella, the largest supplier of clothing to Marks & Spencer, rose 5p from a five-year low of 122p after the company said lower raw material prices should offset oght margins to produce second half operating profits similar to those of last year. Ladieswear sales were strong but knitwear and men's and children's clothing has been disappointing. A steady second half will still mean lower full-year profits as interim earnings were 34 per cent lower at £47 million.

Severn Trent buyback

SEVERN TRENT, the water company barred last month from bidding for South West Water, yesterday added to the utilioes' shareholder bonanza with a £12t.5 million buyback of its own shares. It will spend further cash "as appropriate". The company bought 4.9 per cent of its shares in the market at 675p after an announcement last month that it would buy back 10 per cent of its equity. Severn Trent has followed other utilities in delivering substantial shareholder returns.

Staged reductions to £330,000 planned

Hanson cuts his pay packet

BY GEORGE SIVELL

LORD Hanson, who has slimmed down many a flabby enterprise in his time, is to half his pay packet and then

half it again. Hanson annual report that he halved his pay with effect from October 1, the start of the new financial year, in recognition of the demerger of Imperial, the tobacco business, and Millennium, the chemicals

Lord Hanson's salary at the stock market's poor receppected in listing particular fl. 320,000 for the year to the demerger. He due to be published soon.

October 1996 and says that has been cut to £660,000 for the current fioancial year. The report says this will be cut again to £330,000 when The Energy Group is demerged.

The report shows Derek Shareholders are told in the Bonham, the Hanson chief executive and the highest paid director mentioned, enjoying a 32 per cent rise from £1,123,000 to £1,484,000 doring the year. Mr Bonham is also chairman of Imperial and is to become chairman of The Energy Group.

Lord Hanson also criticises

writes to shareholders: "The performance of the share price is of over-riding importance to us all and has been very disappointing. The com-bined value of Hanson and the demerged companies was 195p oo December I, 1995, and now stands at 150p (December 5 figure) This in no way represents either earning ca-

The Energy Group is scheduled to be demerged early next year. Further details of its results to September 1996 and its future plans are expected in listing particulars

pacity or future prospects."

TOURIST RATES

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE

The annual report shows

□ Northern battle nears its end □ Fresh wrangle over pension rights □ Bank takes flak from Barings

☐ MOST takeover bids work out their passage in their stylised way, with the usual choreographed moves and countermoves en route, which are of enormous fascination to the participants and to the industry of advisers who earn multimillion pound fees but of limited

interest elsewhere. We had two such yesterday, a couple of engineers bidding for smaller and less successful rivals. Just a few, however, have resonance beyond the invest-

ment community and their respective industries. Forte versus Granada was one such, ending in a defeat for an incumbent management that had played the loyalty card to fund managers without any solid achievements to back this up. At the time there was much talk about City short-termism; the improvements Granada has achieved since suggest that sup-port for Forte management would have meant taking a longterm view to excess.

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Altike offer

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Angelia line

Some similar arguments are being fielded in the CalEnergy bid for Northern Electric. It is a case of cash now, or support for a management that has done about all it humanly can to provide the maximum shareholder value as an alternative. Some similar arguments are

CalEnergy's 650p terms were initially seen as unattractive. Two new factors have intervened

When small investors count

since. A couple of precipitate the century, puts a fair support under the current share price.

650p in cash more attractive than

The battle, which closes on market collapses have made 650p in cash more attractive than it had once seemed. The bid, which had which had been expected to be blocked by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, was waved through. Had the bid lapsed, Northern shareholders would not have seen the money anyway. But its clearance also suggests or on season for these suggests open season for those three other regional electricity companies not yet under new ownership. Expect action soon — possibly even before the Northern bid closes.

Clearance raised the value of such historesses.

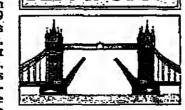
such businesses, and so by extension that of Northern. If the calenergy bid fails, the theory suggests, there will be another along in due course — possibly even from the same bidder at a higher price, if agreed. This is allowed under Takeover Panel rules, and Northern has in-dicated a fair value in the £7 area. Meanwhile the latter's stated dividend policy, a 99.2p payment in February, a prospec-tive 10 per cent yield the year after and annual dividend growth of 8 per cent to the end of

Friday, will turn around those 19 per cent of Northern investors who are private shareholders, and therefore inclined to support the board. The City institutions, barring a couple of exceptions who have already declared themselves against the bid, will take the money. That 19 per cent have an exceptional opportunity to take a supportive stance, while still able to rely on the high dividends already promised. The betting is that the City will decide the affair. But local investors

Temptation in a little pot of gold

could choose to swing the matter.

☐ GOVERNMENT ministers took the same attitude to pen-sions as other furtive 1980s' employers in the messier privatisations such as buses, electricity and rail. If British Aerospace or British Telecom were sold intact. pensions simply went with them. When the old state organisation was broken up, all sorts of PENNINGTON



possibilities (and responsibil-

ries) suddenly opened up.
Pensioners had to be protected.
But when highly paid advisers
pointed out that state industry
pension funds had surpluses that could be used to help to finance costly restructuring - or even just furnish Treasury coffers — ministers' eyes lit up with the childish delight of a lucky fruit-machine punter. Their delight was the greater because breaking up an industry otherwise yielded far less than selling it to the public intact.

In the National Bus break-up, Government niftily seized rights to any surplus in an unequal exchange for some less-than-generous guarantees. In electric-ity, surpluses were apportioned with striking generosity towards new employers that needed to will surely be anxious to avoid finance the extra pension cost of associated redundancies. By the time the centrifuge

approach to privatisation reached its apogee on the rail-ways, the form was well estab-lished. Surpluses could be used to slim franchise subsidies by allowing hidders to see that they could enjoy a contributions holiday. In a twisted way, it makes sense. The surpluses are being retained in the industry, allowing the franchise director to obtain a better deal on services or

As soon as fund members started challenging these deals with the pensions ombudsman, however, awkward questions arose. How should trustees share such surpluses between member and employer? And what pressures are put on trust-ees to do what the Government wants? In the bus case, the ombudsman ruled that pressure has been unfair, though min-isters still hope the courts will let them keep the surplus. Electric-ity workers were hard done by too, according to the ombuds-

investment for the same subsidy.

will surely be anxious to avoid another embarrassing rebuff from the State's own watchdog.

Independence may not be enough

ACCUSING the Bank of England of being too close to the City is a little like accusing it of being in Threadneedle Street — it does rather go with the territory. It is impossible to review the Barings saga without disquiet over the way the system was operated, the cosy series of nods and winks that were supposed to be enough but weren't, the chummy assumption that the sheer longevity of the country's oldest merchant bank

bestowed the right to operate without supervision. There is a clear argument to separate the Bank's twin functions of economic stewardship and financial regulation of the banking system, if not least because the first area tends to attract the brightest minds much more fun to follow the Chancellor from summit to summit dropping pearls of eco-

nomic wisdom than trawl wearily through endless financial audits. But it is not so clear whether an independent regulator would be effective merely because it would be independent.

The SEC on Wall Street is held out as a role model by some. But the SEC's success has come about not least because of the weapons available to it, including heavy civil penalties that require a lower burden of proof than criminal remedies — a relevant point the day after Ernest Saunders's victory in the European Court.

Counter call

☐ IT WILL be a cold and hungry Christmas Eve in the banking halls this year. The staff at Lloyds/TSB and NatWest have been told to work through the afternoon. The customer comes first state banks one hallow first, says Lloyds, in a hollow gesture intended to bring good-will to the high street before overdraft rate charges begin to hurt. But the paupers - sorry, staff — at Lloyds are revolting. Our families come first, they say, leaving NatWest alone to man the counters. But relephone banking goes on heedless of the season of goodwill, a thought that should bring a non-festive shiver to all banking staff - and the prospect of an unmerry new year for a few thousand of them.

FKI's bid for Tonks is rejected

FKI, the engineering group, yesterday launched a hostile bid for Newman Tonks after winning the support of the largest shareholders of the building materials group.

The cash-and-shares offer values Newman Tonks at £195.7 million. Alternatively. shareholders could take £182.6 million in cash.

FKI had been contemplating a bid for three years, and decided to go ahead only after gaining firm undertakings from M&G and Britannic Assurance, which hold a total of 13.4 per cent of Newman

M&G, which is Newman Tonks's largest shareholder, with more than 11 per cent, is irrevocably committed to ac-cepting the offer after years of support for the Newman Tonks board.

M&G's move was regarded as highly significant in the City Nigel Harrison, of Wil-liams de Broë, the stockbroker, said that M&G's change of mind bode well for FKI.

from 129p to 1492 p. just shy of FKI's 150p-per-share offer. Jeff Whalley, FKI chairman, said: "Newman Tonks represents an excellent opportunity to expand our hardware business internationally and in new sectors of the

market. We have proven our

Newman Tonks shares rose

ability to enhance the performance of our core businesses in recent years, and I am confident that Newman Tonks's results can be significantly improved under our

management."
Mr Whalley said that Newman Tonks's operating margins, earnings per share and dividend had all fallen by at

least 11 per cent since 1992.

If the bid succeeds, the enlarged FKI group would have a stronger focus on hardware supplies and double its present hardware turnover. Whereas Newman Tonks operates primarily in Europe, 89 per cent of FKI's hardware business is in America. Newman Tonks responded

to the hid by branding it opportunistic, and saying that it undervalued its busi-

company advised shareholders to reject the offer and take no immediate action. The money payable under the cash alternative will be funded from existing cash resources and through a fully underwritten conditional rights issue of up to two new FKI shares for every 13 existing FKI shares at 1750 per

FKI shares closed at 19612p. down from 200p.

Tempus, page 26

Nursing homes 'in decline'

BY ERIC REGULY

GOLDSBOROUGH Healthcare predicted yesterday that profit margins in its nursing homes division would continue to come under pressure because of flat or declining occupancy rates.

Graham Smith, chief executive, said funding uncertainties from local authorities had reduced nursing home occupancy rates from 92.5 per cent last year to 90 per cent now.

The nursing homes divi-sion, which includes care homes, reported a 6 per cent decline in operating profits, to £4.5 million, in the year to September 30. The downturn was more than offset by better performances from the hospital and home care business. Pre-tax profits rose 11 per cent to £5.9 million on turnover of

£68.7 million, up 34 per cent. The final dividend, to be paid on February 28, rises 10 per cent to 2.97p, making the total dividend 4.29p.



Securicor squeezed by competition

By ERIC REGULY

INCREASED competition and weakness in parts of Europe put pressure of the core operations of Securicor, the security and communications group. Operating profits in its sec-

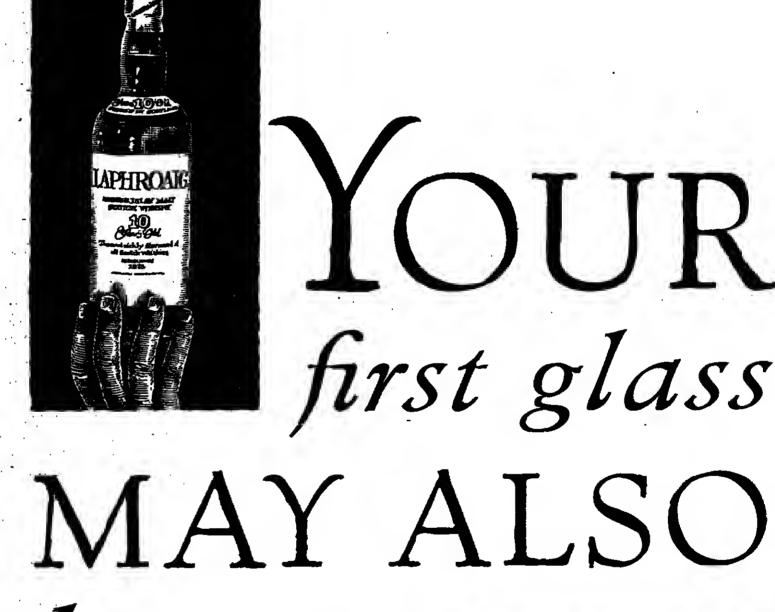
urity division, which accounts for almost one third of turnover, declined from £15 million to £12 million in the year to September 30. The company said its British operations suffered from competitors which had reduced prices to "unsustainable levels" and problems in its French operations.

Securicor Cellular Services. its communications business, also suffered a downturn, with a loss of £4.5 million (£2.6 million profit). Securicor blamed the downturn on a shift in the mobile-phone customer base to consumer subscribers, who are more prone to bad debts than business customers. The other businesses fared better. Parcels distribution,

which includes Omega Express and Pony Express, was the star performer with a 57 per cent rise in profits to E21 million. Cellnet, the mobile phone company which is 40 per cent owned by Securicor and 60 per cent owned by British Telecom, generated £76 million in profits (£70 million). Group pre-tax profits were up 8.1 per cent to £107.4 million. Earnings per share were 11.6p against 10.7p last time, and the

final dividend of 1.2p, due on April 4, makes a 1.56p total, up

17 per cent.



Some people try Laphroaig (la-froyg) once, and never again. It's only to be expected. The uncompromising taste of our malt bas always led to extremes. Some people try it once, and drink no other whisky again. For them, there's no substitute for Laphroaig's rich, peaty reck. Its sweet, heathery smokiness. Try it. You won't be the first to bate it. Or the last to love it.

LAPHROAIG no half measures.



well in 150



Insurance sector heats up as merger rumours grow

THE market remains convinced that it can only be a matter of time before a major deal is announced in the

Once again the speculative attention was focused on Commercial Union as the price raced up t3p to a new peak of 693p as persistent talk of the long-waited bid from Allianz, the German insurance group.

It seems that a plan by BAT Industries to merge its finan-cial service arm, that includes Allied Hambro, Eagle Star. and Farmers, with CU was abandoned a few weeks ago.

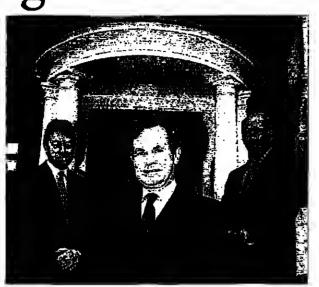
But BAT continues to look at ways of expanding. Now the speculators claim it may be looking at General Accident. up 2lp at 71612, which is reckoned to be the safest bet after CU. At these levels GA is capitalised at £3.3 billion.

The insurance brokers are also undergoing a period of consolidation. In recent weeks Aon has merged with A&A and earlier this week Lloyd Thompson, Pap firmer at 17512p, decided to tie the knot with JIB Group, 2p better at 132p. Further deals are expected. Willis Corroon, up Sp at 140 2p, Sedgwick, 1 2p dearer at 133 2p, are both seen as possible bid candidates.

The overnight serback for shares on Wall Street provided a dull backdrop to trading in London, with prices marked lower at the outset. The losses were accelerated after lunch by a stronger than expected jump in new US housing starts. It prompted an initial mark-down of US Treasury bonds while the Dow Jones industrial average also moved lower. But New York later clawed back a 31-point deficit enabling the London market to close above its worst levels. The FT-SE 100 index reduced a 23-point deficit to close 14.2 down at 3.979.6 as a total of 888 million shares were

British Gas fell 6p to 22312p after ABN Amro Hoare Govett, one of its joint brokers. reduced its break-up value for the company from 240p to 220p. It also reduced its recommendation from a "buy" to a "hold".

Hoare Govett was also responsible for a 6p fall in ICI at 767p after a profits downgrading. It has reduced its estimate for the current year by £25 million to £675 million and for 1995 by £35



Kunick was firmer on higher profits for John Jones. finance director, left, Russell Smith, centre, and Clive Clague

RTZ, the mining finance group, fell 30p to 921 2p on the back of comments made by Broken Hill Proprietary, Australia's largest quoted company, about falling coal prices.

Newman Tonks climbed 2012p to 14912p after rejecting the terms of a £195.7 million offer from FKI, the fast grow-ing engineering group. New-man said the bid undervalued

Brian McGowan, chairman of Burnfield, said Fairey was offering a knock-down price for the group and its potential. Fairey slipped 112p to 582p. Shares of Sherwood Group tumbled 17p to 4112p after issuing its second profits

Burnfield at 135p a share.

warning in six months. Sales

of both lace and garments were depressed and pre-tax

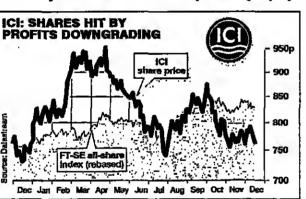
Compass Group fell 8p to 612p after Accor, of France, sold a total of 6 million shares at 601.6p each, a sharp discouot. It reduces Accor's stake to 21.53 per cent. Despite the sale, Paribas Capital Markets, the broker, remains a buyer of Compass and forecasts a 675p target price during the next six to nine months.

prospects. M&G and Britannic, Newman Tonks's two biggest shareholders, account for 13.4 per cent of the shares and have agreed to accept the terms from FKI, Z¹2p easier at 196¹2p.

Elsewhere in the engineer-ing sector, Bornfield surged 36p to 136p after rejecting terms of a ES1.1 million offer from Fairey. The deal values

profits in the second half will be "appreciably less" than the £3.75 million achieved In the first six months. The group is maintaining the 3.6p divi-dend. The fallout hit Coortaulds Textiles. another producer of lace, which ended 10p down at 221p.

Another profits warning in the textiles sector came from Coats Viyella. The group says



that full-year pre-tax profits will be his by a £55 million restructuring charge. It also warned that operating profits before costs will be similar to the second half of last year. The group was optimistic about prospects and the price responded with a rise of 5p at

Severn Trent Water put or 1312p at 66712p after the group waded into the market and bought back almost 5 per cen of its own shares. The group announced plans to buy bac up to 10 per cent of its share along with the interim figure last month.

Kunick, the leisure group under Clive Clague, chair man, and Russell Smith, chie executive, firmed 34p to 2314 with the help of a 10 per cen increase in pre-tax profits a E9.1 million. It has also concluded a joint agreement with Gauselmann in order to buy Bell-Fruit Manufacturing

for £6.8 million. Increased losses left Aromascan 412p lower at 95p. while Eurotherm failed to benefit from full-year profits bang in line with City expecta-tions as the price fell 20p to 540p. The City gave a lukewarm response to full-year figures from Vaux showing pre-tax profits up £3 million at E34.8 million. The shares set-

tled 5p lower at 25212p. Clubpartners, the AIM-listed leisure group, crashed a further 5p to 212p after the group admitted that any offers for the company were likely to be pitched at around the lp level. Last week the shares were trading at 11p.

☐ GILT-EDGED: The stronger than expected jump in US housing starts unsettled bond markets on boths sides of the Atlantic, Brokers said that in such thin conditions bearish news was always likely to create a certain amount of

In futures the March series of the long gilt fell £3s to £1081116 as the number of contracts completed slumped to just 20,000.

In the cash market Treasury 12 per cent 2015 lost £1732 at £1012532, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £18 off at El021116.

NEW YORK: On Wall

Street concern about future of the economy and interest rales prevailed and bonds dragged shares lower. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 4.23 points at 6,264.12.

MAJOR INDICES
New York (midday): Dow Jones
Tokyo: Nikkei Average
Hong Kong: Hang Seng 12815.37 1-122.11)
Amsterdam: EOE Index 612.94 [-3.18]
Sydney: 23 S#1-20.5
Frankfurt: 2818.13 40.66)
Singapore: 2176.52 (-6.74)
Brussels: General
Paris: CAC-40
Zurich: ska Gen 826.10 (-3.70)
London: FT 30

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n	FTSE Eurotrack 100 1847.55 1-6.9
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_	FT Fixed Interest 116.27 (-0.0
11	FT Govt Secs 94.06 (+0.0)
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Azlan n/p (620)	4	
Biocompatibles n/p	245	- 24
Bodycore Intl n/p	14412	

Yeoman Group

MAJOR C	HANGES.
RISES: Prism Rail Flextech Select App Antours Com Union	648'-p (+21p) 340p (+10'-p) 752p (+19'-p) 693p (+13p)
FALLS: Courtauld Text Domino Eurotherm Border TV	274p (-11p) 540p (-20p)

Closing Prices Page 28

.. 468'-o (-10p)

TEMPUS

Engineering a bid

at Newman Tonks. Not only has the fund nager encouraged FKI to launch its bid. but M&G has offered a carrot in the form of a full, irrevocable undertaking to accept FKI's offer. Even if Newman Tonks manages to rustle up a higher bid from a friendly third party. M&G is committed to FKI; and the latter could, if it chooses, make a quick profit by selling to the rival bidder.

To that extent, FKI could defray some of its underwriting fees, but the cost of winning is not inconsiderable. The engineering group is paying marginally less than £200 million for an equivalent amount of sales, a fullish price. The remaining £50 million to £60 million of Newman Tonk's annual revenue is likely to be sold quickly if a buyer can be found. Losses in the contract services arm of Newman

M&G IS the measure of the poor performance

Tonks were responible for the first-half profits collapse and the business would add little to FKI. The question is how fast can FKI boost the Newman Tonks margins. Excluding the duff businesses FKI does not want, margins will be higher than the reported 6 per cent return on sales, a rano the bidder scornfully compares with its own 16 per cent margin on hardware sales.

FKI will do well out of Newman if it can take its margins up to the 12 per cent level, but that assumption of hidden value raises a problem. If Newman Tonks is a good business badly run, others, such as Williams Holdings, might seek to do the honours. The behaviour of Newman Tonks suggests that an auction, not a defence, is now in progress. That is good news for M&G, whose recent investment record is more akin to Newman Tonks than FKI.

Securicor

SECURICOR continues to wrestle with the same prob-lem. Profits and growth are driven by its 40 per cent stake in Celinet, the mobile phone company it jointly owns with British Telecom.

The investment has been a gem, but Securicor's management is keen to sell: a passive investment in mobile telephooy hardly justifies their existence and they would like to free up resources to expand security, parcels delivery and business services. But the sale cannot proceed without government approval, and there is no chance of that happening before the election.

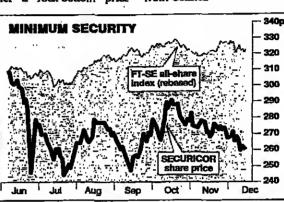
The detay is a blessing in disguise; Securicor has a lot of work to do. If it is to unload Cellnet it roust prove that it can do a better job of running its core operations.

The parcels distribution business performs well but the security division, which accounts for almost a third of turnover, has suffered a downturn and its margins

are among the lowest in the industry. The company roust also drum up interest in its Cellnet stake. As the logical buyer, BT will naturally offer a rock-bottom price

unless Securicor can find competing bidders.

Securicor shares are worth a bet at this stage. Margins are more likely to rise than fall; and if they follow the latter course, the coropany may find itself in the sights of Kentokil and other predators. There remains the hope of squeezing more value from Cellnet.



T&N

DOGGED determination is what you should expect from T&N, a company that refused having paid out £500 million in claims for asbestos-related injuries. Yet T&N's pursuit of Kolbenschmidt, the German piston maker, might raise some evebrows. The two-year cost of its option over 50 per cent of Kolbenschmidt has been about £24 million and despite the initial ruling of the German cartel office barring a T&N takeover the British auto components maker intends to continue its pursuit. The cost of parking half of the share options with Metallbank (Commerzbank is apparently feeling the pol-itical heat) is a further £8 million but the new twist is that Metallbank is merely a custodian for mysterious

European investors. In effect, T&N has removed the options from its balance sheet. Previously, T&N bore the risk of changes

cost it can ill afford, given the asbestos-related provisions. In due course, the remaining per cent of the Kolbenschmidt stake may follow suit and the question is whether the mystery European investors can belp T&N to resolve its battle to control the piston maker. What T&N needs is an alliance which would give it influence over Kolbenschmidt without the

in the value of the shares, a

control that displeases the German carrel office. After the recent measures to ringfence the asbestos problem. T&N is hardly ready to mount a £250 million bid for a German company, but a collaborative venture might be acceptable.

Vaux

VAUX is the ugly duckling of the brewing sector. Only its Swallow hotel chain is admired by the City. Other businesses, from brewing to nursing homes, remain an

working hard to transform its image and some £50 million of assets are up for sale, including St Andrew's Care Homes. The brewing division has been put in order. with rising own-brand vol-umes. The Bass-Carlsberg tie-up could actually ease some of the pressure on the company by ending a fierce discounting war that has plagued the beer trade in the North East.

But worries persist that Vaux simply does not have the financial strength to grow its business at a rate that reflects the upswing in consum-er spending. Money from disposals would help, although it may not be enough lo impress the City. Profits are predicted to rise lo around £38.5 million, placing the shares on an undemanding forward price earnings rating of 12. But Vaux still rates among the best of its

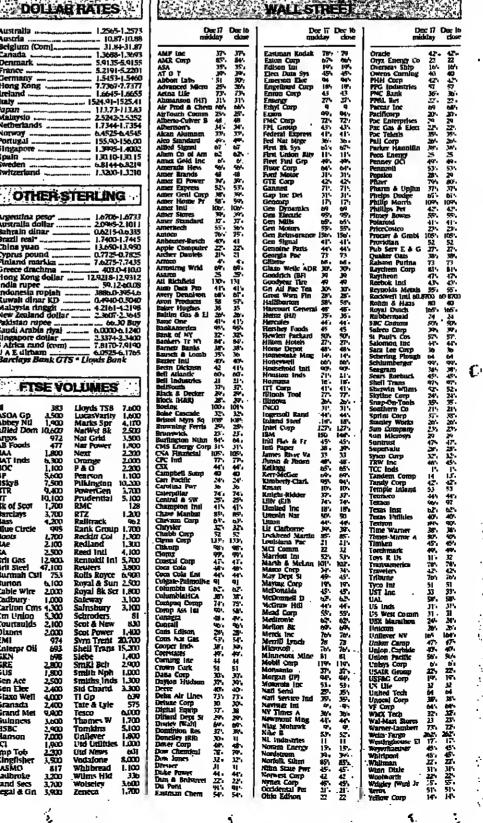
embarrassment. Vaux is EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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R 304.5-02.7	Volume 732	Feb 215.50-15.75 May 193.00 SLR	High Low Cla
		Mar 207.75-08.00 Vol: 9551	Jan 97 1450 1430 14
			Reb 97 1420 1410 14
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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES



Preservin

ring a bid

THE **TIMES**

Going Places with Cilla

A MARRIAGE made oo holiday. Going Places has signed a seven-figure deal to sponsor LWT's Blind Date show. Credits will appear before, during, and after the popular matchmaking programme. Due to strict guidelines, however, the travel company has been barred from playing cupid and sending couples on their blind

To celebrate tomorrow's launch, Going Places is sending the only two couples to have married as a result of the show on a second honeymoon. Cilla Black will not be there the presenter of the show is on her hols.

Called to the bar

TRUE to my word, legal firms Cameron Markby Hewitt and McKenna & Co have tied the knot. Once meetings to take a vote had finished at both firms on Monday night, separate celebrations began. In the middle of the excitement, however, someone at Camerons (whose party had started rather earlier than its other half's) suggested that if the two firms were merging, then so should the parties. At once, taxies were filled with dewy-eyed partners from Camerons, heading off to initiate themselves with their new relations at Cameron McKenna".



Rimmer: is that you?

Saying cheese

FULL MARKS all round to Legal & General for the most boring, most cheesy, most embarrassing Christmas card. Graham Rimmer, the insurance company's photogenic press officer, has taken time out of his busy schedule to pose for the picture.
If this is what it's like
during the festive season. imagine the office during the rest of the year. Oh yes, and isn't that a Hermes tie Mr Rimmer is wearing?

On the case

POSTIES are not the only

people working their fingers to the bone before Christmas. Eleveo case officers io the OFT's mergers secretariat have dealt with 487 cases already this year, including the proposed British Airways American Airlines alliance and the planned Bass-Carlsberg-Tedey takeover. Since the beginning of last week. 26 cases have been completed and a 40-page consultation document on the BA-AA merger has been published Working on an average of 10 cases each at any one time, sometimes to a deadline of 35 days, staff will be letting rip at this week's Christmas party.

Travel pack

WHERE has Le Meridien Piccadilly been since the awakening of equality? The botel has introduced a new Female Executive Traveller package, prom-ising low-calorie menus and glossy magazines for lonely females to read in its restaurants. Business women will be escorted to their hotel room, located close to the lift, where there will be a welcome letter waiting with basic safety tips and essential information on beauty treatments. An all-important magnifying mirror will be hanging in the

MORAG PRESTON

As promised — Tories labour their point on employment

Philip Bassett

goes in search of the truth behind

claims in the

John Major advert on employment

ohn Major's bespectacled eyes stare hugely out from the bill-boards plastered around Britain's streets. "As promised," the advertisement says, "more jobs". As the Government today unveils its latest on historical streets. job figures, the Prime Minister's campaign allies the Conservatives jobs record with its tax-cutting claims as one of the key issues on the pre-election agenda. Are the Conservatives right?

Ministers hope today's latest labour

market figures will show a further fall in unemployment, though there were no clear signs in Westminster yester-day about whether the fall will take claimant unemployment below the significant two million mark.

While ministers are hopeful that the figures today or next month will show that, officials yesterday were pointing out that last month's 40,800 fall was associated with a number of special factors. They might "bounce back" on today's figure, which needs to drop by at least a seasonally adjusted 30,100 to fall below the two million threshold something it has done only twice in the past two years.

A few months before a general election, unemployment is clearly a key electoral concern for voters, with more than 10.3 million people having had one or more spells of being out of work since the 1992 vote. But however significant unemployment is, it is the number of jobs that will be vital in ushering back the elusive "feel-good" factor, seen as central to the election. By focusing in the current "As promised advertising campaign on only tax cuts and jobs, that is the Conservatives' clear pre-election judgment. But for the Government, the jobs

story since the last election is made more difficult by the disparity between its two principal measures of employment, as produced by the Office for National Statistics - the employer-based Workforce in Employment series (WinE), focusing mainly on employees in employment (EinE), and the household-based Labour Force Survey series. Whitehall's statisticians have just been revising the figures. gain, so that the gan between the two has been reduced, this time by 98,000. so that it now stands at 454,000 - still more of a yawning chasm than a gap, and one that is proving difficult and perhaps impossible to bridge.

Take overall employment change since the last election. The employer-based EinE series measures the change as an increase of 129,000, or just 0.6 per cent barely enough to justify the "As prom-ised" campaign. The LFS sees it differently -a 467,000 increase in jobs, or just

under 2 per cent. Because its methodology makes it internationally comparable — and because it is less subject to the switchbacks of political decision-making - statisticians tend to favour the LFS. Ministers tend to like the "real" numbers of the unemployment claimant count, or the EinE, which is partly why they have rejected a move to a

EMPLOYMENT SINCE 1992 ELECTION Millions employed LABOUR FORCE SURVEY EMPLOYEES IN EMPLOYMENT Conservatives lose local elections again

monthly LFS, instead of the current quarterly arrangement; but the mark-edly better figures of the LFS on jobs

are tempting them sorely.
In any case, the WinE and EinE series are still economically more important — in particular, because they, and not the LFS, are used as components in other key economic indicators, including the GDP figures. and in Budget arithmetic.

Looking at the EinE series, then, and comparing March 1992 - a month before that year's election — with the latest-available figures, for June 1996, the overall job growth of 129,000 masks important other developments.

.For instance, the overall improvement disguises sharply differing experiences for men, and for women. Since the last election, the total number of jobs for men has gone down, by 84,000. or 0.8 per cent. The number of jobs held by women has risen, by 213,000, or 2 per cent. Given both the dominance of women in part-time work, and the increasing attractiveness to employers of more flexible work patterns, the period has also seen very different

developments in patterns of employ ment. Part-time jobs are up since the election, by 7.7 per cent, or 439,000. Full-time employment is down, by 283,000, or 1.8 per cent.

Within these national figures, the employment pattern has diverged, too. The South West, for instance, has seen the highest job growth, at 4.5 per cent, or 76,000 new jobs - though this region has traditionally been a lowemployment, low-pay area.

et the industrial heartland of the West Midlands has seen a 2.9 per cent increase in jobs, up 59,000 since the election, followed by the East Midlands at 1.9 per cent, or 30,000, and then Yorkshire and Humberside, at 1.8 per cent, or 34,000 jobs. By contrast, some areas have seen a fall. Scotland has lost 100,000 jobs since the election - down 5 per cent. The North has seen 3.25 per cent of its jobs go, or 36,000, while 0.6 per cent, or 15,000, have gone in net terms over the period.

These differential experiences of job growth, and some continuing job decline, are reflected in the patterns in

different industrial sectors. Despite re cent increases, jobs in manufacturing, which were hammered in the recessions of the early 1980s and the early 1990s, have communed to be hit since the election, with the total number of manufacturing jobs now 2.5 per cent down since then — a fall of 101,000. Service sector jobs — often seen as less secure, less well-paid and less long-lasting — are up, in contrast, by 3.3 per cent or 556,000 cent. or 526,000.

Within these broad groupings, some individual areas have been harder hit, while some have prospered. Unsurprisingly, given the extent of the pit closure programme from 1992 onwards, mining and energy has seen the biggest fall in jobs — down a huge 44.5 per cent or 153,000 since the election.

Sectorally, nothing else comes close, though almost 16 per cent of jobs in construction, or 150,000, have gone over that period: 11.3 per cent of jobs in agriculture, or 33,000; and 7 per cent of jobs in transport, or 96,000.

o sectors have seen comparable rates of growth. The official category of real estate, renting and general business service activities has seen the biggest increase - up 18.7 per cent, or an increase of a hefty 441,000 jobs. Employment in hotels and restaurants is up 8 per cent, or 94,000, and in health - probably mainly administrative jobs - by 4.5 per cent, or 106,000.

Even using the LFS figures, which show overall much higher jobs growth, similar differences emerge, though when set against the EinE series, the pattern can be confusing. Not only does the LFS show much higher jobs growth since the 1992 election, at 467,000, but the composi-

tion of that growth is different.
Whereas the EinE figures show men's employment falling while women's has risen, the LPS shows a rise for both— 150,000, or 1 per cent, for men, and 317,000, or 28 per cent, for women. The trends on part and full-time working are at least in the same direction in the two series, though the LFS figures show a startling increase — albeit from a relatively low base of 978,000 — in parttime work for men, which is up 300,000, or more than 30 per cent.

White-collar employment has grown more sharply than manual work, the LFS shows — up 678,000, roughly divided evenly between men and women, compared with a growth of just 96,000 in blue-collar jobs since the election. Jobs showing increases in-clude managers and professional work together with sales and personal service employment - hairdressers, security guards and so on.

Clerical and especially skilled craft work have seen falls — down respectively by 58,000, or 1.5 per cent, and 282,000, or 8 per cent. By industry, the pattern is broadly similar.

Even given the statistical disparities so far unexplained by ministers and Whitehall, what all these figures tend to confirm is an employment pattern now fixed in electors' minds: fewer jobs in the "older" areas of employment, among men, in manufacturing, in peripheral regions, and in full-time work and, at the same time, a rise in jobs for women, in the service sector, in low-paying regions, in part-time employment.

The fact that after a long period of falling unemployment there have been rises at all in jobs is enough, just, to give at least a sliver of substance to the Government's poster claims. Whether that will be enough for the electorate



HARRIS

The curse of the Fairy Godmother

ohn Major seems likely to enjoy his Christmas break more than he can have dared to hope only a few weeks ago. He has survived a crucial vote. Shoppers are behaving as if they felt good. And now his policies enjoy the OECD seal of approval: Britain can, it seems, go on perform-mg like a Euro-tiger, outgrowing most other devel-

oped countries. Little (apart from the IRA) seems likely to disturb his festivities. The markets have settled into the slumber that follows a good meal; and even if they get a twinge of indigestion and provoke a fall in equities or sterling, the correction would actually be quite welcome. Could it

all come right? You will hardly expect an endorsement in this column; and if you step back a little, the prospect changes into an old seasonal puzzle what is

wrong with this picture? In other words, can an open economy really outgrow main kets

long? Can a

recovery that

started with the enforced devaluation of 1992 survive the reversal of that advantage? And if things do go wrong, what is the right response? Raise interest rates to check inflation and push the pound right back to where we came in? Or cut them in step with the rest of the world and return to stop-go?

If you are a Conservative Minister, perhaps the best way to get to sleep peacefully which will face the next government.

Bad management or just bad luck? The Chancellor did ask for trouble when he made no response at all to the huge handouts which building society savers are enjoying. That could lead to indigestion. But even if he had taken steps to smooth the growth of home de-mand, he would have been left with a harder problem: what can be done to sup-

press sterling? Mrs Thatcher faced this poser - or rather, failed to face it - in her first years. The high pound knocked the economy flat and corrected only when the oil price fell. No such rescue is in sight this time. If the exchange rate does not ease very soon, you can forget the OECD's cheerful UK forecast. Just another

dud projection.

But if it isn't oil this time, why is the exchange rate rising so relentlessly? Within Europe, we can no doubt blame the French, as usual. After blaming us for a sneaky devaluation, they bave joined in, and persuad-ed the Germans to join them, in the joy-throughweakness campaign. But the pound is rising not just in Europe, but against every-thing — and that is not so

easy to explain. I hope, at least, that you agree it is difficult; for that is my only hope of persuading you to give any serious attention to what may look a far-fetched guess. Is it possible the British lioo has indeed become a tiger, as Ministers like to boast, but is now suffering the fate of

other 'tigers'. All offered cheap, orderly and relatively well-trained

friendly tax If the exchange regimes. All attracted rate does not ease large inflows of fixed invery soon, you vestment can forget the which speeded modern-OECD's cheerful isation. But later they **UK** forecast "enjoyed"

stronger portfolio inflows than they could absorb - a process which Brian Reading, of Lombard Street Research has, christened "uphill capi-

The result of this forcefeeding: first a rising exchange rate and/or rising reserves; then a rising domestic money supply: then rising inflation and a ballooning trade deficit. Final chapter, unless they are luckaer than Mexico: col lapse tif confidence, curren-

cy, economy and all. This is a capital market version of Greek tragedy (hubris followed by Nemesis), and it seems equally inevitable. Only one government has found any answer: Singapore cootrols its capital markets so tightly that it has been able to keep the inflows out of domestie circulation.

No British government seems likely to try to tame the City in the same way, and would probably fail if it tried. But perhaps the markets can do it for themselves. If British fund managers switch overseas aggressively enough, they can recycle this poisoned gift. So you have a duty this

Chistmas. Spread a little panic. Your country needs

Morag Preston on corporate Christmas gifts with a twist

Preserving a presence with a present

ouriers across the capi-tal are being kept busy delivering Christmas presents from one company to another. The giving of corpo-rate gifts is back with a vengeance. But diaries bearing the company logo, which usually go straight in the bin, and bottles of bozze have fallen out of favour. This year the City is dabbling in corporate gifts with quirky angles.

"For the first time in three years, I haven't had it said to me that times are hard," says Francesca Humphreys, managing director of The Empire Group, a corporate gifts com-pany whose clients include

parry whose clients include SBC Warburg, Ogilvy & Mather and Sony Music. Business is booming for the pukka present service specialising in luxury British products from retailers such as Theo Fennell, the jeweller, and Justerini & Brooks, the wine merchant, "We are constantly on the lookout for unusual gift ideas that go a long way beyond silver-plated letteropeners and carriage clocks." she says, adding that this year's most popular present from employers to staff is a £20 silver-plated candle

Harrods corporate gifts service is boasting record figures this year, with hamper sales up 60 per cent and those of guit vouchers 30 per cent. Travel agencies and airlines are among the Knightsbridge store's most regular substribers to its gifts service. From cuddly toys to gift vouchers. the most important feature is the Harrods logo. "Fifty per



cent of the pleasure is in the moose in a customised airtight packaging," says Humphreys. Her clients, especially American and Japanese companies, want to send "typically British" gifts. It is the Americans and Japanese who have forced the British into corporate gift giving, she says.

Marketing directors tend to organise what gifts go to staff and contacts. Medium-sized companies that sign up with Empire usually spend between £30 and £50 per gift. But even if they spend less, it is the name of the shop it came from that is all important -Mosimann's Christmas puddings in pretty boxes, for

can from Chester Boyd, the catering company, is one of the more unusual gifts to have turned up at The Times. Meanwhile, the healthcare division of Legal & General has sent out aromatherapy stress kits to help recipients through the festive season. Moneyfacts, the UK's leading provider of mortgage and savings data, seized on the idea of a Christmas cracker containing a mini

teddy bear. The best corporate Christmas gifts are those forever linked with the company that sends them. This year, the team at Kleinwort Benson's Investment Trusts sent out

1,200 oatty "mug mats" to private clients and stockbrokers, with a photographic montage of their smiling faces on one side and a Father Christmas cartoon on the other. For the past ten years, Roger Hulett, director of Investment Trust Sales at Kleinwort, has been dreaming up inventive gift ideas to charm his contacts and wind up the opposition. Brian Winterflood, manag-

ing director of Winterflood Securities, who is renowned for his Christmas gift giving. this year came up with a customised mouse mat. while the equity sales team at Société Générale sem out juggling balls. So too did Mercury Asset Management. Every year, Guinness sends

out a bottle of whisky or gin to key contacts, including bro-kers, analysts and fund managers. This year, it was a 12year-old bottle of Johnnie Walker Black Label. Meanwhile, staff at Guinness are selection of alcoholic beverages. The brewer also sends out about 17,000 bottles of Johnnie Walker every Christmas to former employees.
Asda sent out huge food

parcels with samples of its seasonal products, including cold turkey sauce, a first-footings kit, banana toffee Christmas pudding, and a tin of its Christmas dinner for dogs. However, its staff are not allowed to receive gifts. Tesco will occasionally give

a gift to a supplier, whereas Sainshury and Safeway do not give or receive any gifts. Marks & Spencer leaves it to its various departments to choose what they send to whom, but usually it is a box of the store's finest chocolates.

Sending the wrong present is, of course, worse than sending nothing at all, according to Humphreys. Go for something classically neutral, she says, then perhaps have it engraved. Clothes and jewellery have never been popular corporate Christmas gifts in the UK.

Meanwhile, it is never a good idea to give sharp objects, such as letter-openers, to clients from the Middle East. while the Japanese tend not to like fountain pens or cufflinks.

NOTICE OF VARIATION OF INTEREST RATES

With effect from 1 January 1997 Mortgage Rate will increase to 7.25% per annum for both existing and new borrowers.

The 100% Mortgage Rate will also increase to 7.75% per annum, along with the Royal Premier Mortgage Rate to 6.50%, with effect from this date.

Existing arrangements apply for Centralised Mortgage Services customers.



The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Registered Office: 36 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YB. Registered in Scotland No. 90312.

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West ix 150

Circumstances vital to level of care required of rugby referee the ordinary incidents of a game of

Another

Mummery and Sir Brian Neill

The level of care required of the football match towards a player was that appropriate in all the circumstances, taking full account of the factual context in which he was exercising his functions as a

responsibility to protect players' safety and to apply the rules of the game in force at the time, in particular, those designed to minimise the acknowledged risk of erious spinal injury resulting

Where, therefore, a referee failed to take appropriate steps under the rules to prevent scrum collapse so that the plaintiff suffered serious spinal injury the referee was liable for that foreseeable consequence of

dismissing an appeal by the sec-ond defendant. Michael Nolan, April 23, 1996) who had made a finding of liability against him in and the captain and hooker of the Sutton Coldfield Colts, was seri-

The plainoff did not appeal

claim against the first defendant. Thomas Whitworth, a fellow

Mr Richard Davies, OC and Mr Neil Block fur the referce; Mr Peter Andrews, QC and Mr Philip Leham for the plaintiff.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that although earlier cases had explored the duty owed by one sporting participant to another (see Rootes v Shelton ([1968] ALR 33]; Condon v Basi ([1985] 1 WLR 866) and Elliott v Saunders (unreported, QB, June 10, 1994)) and that could be a control of the could be control or the could be a control or the control or the could be a control or the that owed by a sporting participant to a speciator (for example Wnoldridge v Sumner (1963) 2 QB 43| and Wilks v Cheltenhom Homeguard Motor Cycle ond Light Car Club ([1971] | WLR 668). there appeared to be no previous case in which a rugby football

The present case was of obvious importance to the plaintiff whose capacity for active and indepen-dent life had been blighted, but it feared that the judgment for the enmesh in unwelcome legal toils a

t That rugby football was a tough, highly physical game, not for the timid or the fragile, in which participants in serious competitive games could expect a fair share of knocks, bruises, strains, abrasions and minor bony injuries.

2 The laws of the game in force

game which gave pleasure to His Lordship referred to the context in which the issues arose:

ing instructions and notes for the guidance of players and referees, which contained special provisions for under-19s.

by the International Rugby Foot-ball Board and their accompany-

His Lordship set out the relevant laws applicable, in particular, to under I's and relating to protection during scrummages and enforcement of safety measures. which were in place for the 1991-1992 season, specifically to protect young players against the risk of spinal injury caused by collapsed

He also referred to a further directive issued in March 1991 expressing concern at the contin-ued lack of observance of the phased sequence of engagement within law 20(2) and requiring the strict observance of the engagement sequence, crouch-touch-

se-engage (CTPE). 3 The referee's function to super-vise the playing of the match, endeavouring to apply the rules of the game fairly and judiciously so as to ensure that the flow of play was not unnecessarily interrupted that points awarded were fairly scored and that foul or dangerous play was discouraged and, where appropriate, penalised or

His Lordship said that that function had often to be performed the context of a fast-moving. competitive and vigorous game. calling for split-second judgments

The referee could not be in all parts of the field at the same time; he could not hope to see everything

devotee of the game.

On the question of the duty of care owed to the plaintiff the referee, founding his pleaded de-fence on observations of Lord Justice Sellers and Lord Justice Diplock in Wooldridge v Sumner (1903) 2 QB 43, 57, 67 and 68), had armed that while he owed a duty of care and skill, nothing short of reckless disregard of the plaintiff's safety would suffice to establish a breach of that duty.

The judge had adopted the test proposed by the plaintiff in reliance on observations of Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, in Condon v Basi (at p868) that the duty owed was to exercise such degree of care as was appropriate in all the circumstances

In the judgment of the court the accepted that be owed a duty so that there was no issue whether any duty of care arose at all or her any such duty was owed to the plaintiff.

The issue of policy, or of what was just and reasonable, did not accordingly fall for decision. The only question was what duty was owed. The referee feared that if the plainuff's test were accepted the threshold of liability would be too low and those in the referee's position would be too vulnerable to suits by injured players. The court did not accept that fear

as well founded. The level of care required was that which was appropriate in all the circumstances and the circumstances were of crucial importance. Full account had to be taken of

could not be properly held liable for errors of judgment, oversight or lapses of which any referee might be guilty in the context of a fast-moving and vigorous contest. The threshold of liability was a high one. It would not easily be

There was no inconsistency between that conclusion and that reached by the Court of Appeal in the Wooldridge and Wilks cases. The position of a referee vis-a-vis the players was not the same as that of a participant in a contest

vis-a-vis a spectator. One of his responsibilities was to feguard the players' safety. So although the legal duty was the same, the practical content differed according to the quite different The referee had submitted that

the injury to the plaintiff had not been caused by him directly, but as the result of acts and omissions on the part of third parties, the other mbers of the scrum, and that he could not be held liable unless the court found that there was a high level of probability of injury of the kind which the laws were designed to prevent as a result of a scrum

The court rejected that submission. There could be no doubt that the scrummaging rules were designed to minimise the risk of spinal injuries caused in collaps ing scrums, that being a risk of which those managing or coaching rugby teams or refereeing or playing in matches were by Octoher 1991 well aware.

It was accepted that the referee judge had gained most help from and skill and that serious spinal

sequence of a scrum collapse and of failure to prevent such collapse. If the referee were properly

found to be in breach of his duty of care by failing to take appropriate steps to prevent a collapse and if as a result of his failure a scrum did collapse and a player thereby suffered spinal injuries of a kind the rules were designed to prevent, then the referee would be liable in law for that foreseeable result of his breach of duty, despite the fact that, quantified statistically, it was a result which was very unlikely to

His Lordship, referring to the judge's findings, said that the judge had been satisfied by the evidence that the scrums were repeatedly coming together in a rushed way and with excessive force; that those impacts were the likely cause of a large majority of scrums collapsing and that the number of impact collapses had been abnormally high.

While declining to find precisely how many scrums collapsed in that way, he had accepted the body of responsible evidence at trial that there had been at least twenty

Referring to the evidence at trial, including that given by four witnesses whom the judge had found impressive and reliable, his Londship said it had been their clear and unshaken evidence that the referee had not during the match insisted on the CTPE sequence being followed and that it had not

Of the three expert witnesses the The judge had rightly rejected that defence. In the court's judg-ment the plaintiff had consented to

explained the difficulty for a refrugby football of the kind in which eree of spotting who was collapshe was taking part. ing the scrum, but that recent law Given, however, that the rules were framed for the protection of changes in 1991 had given referees of colts matches the power they

were properly applied with evenly

matched scrums, as in the present

case, he would not expect as many

that if there were 25 that would

indicate that the referee's standard

of refereeing was below an accept-

His Lordship referred to the

judge's conclusions that the referee had not enforced the CTPE se-

quence: that be had, given the

extent of collapsed scrums and in the light of his own expert's evidence, fallen below the stan-

dard of a reasonably competent

Alternatively to his main de-fence, the referce had pleaded the defence of voleno non fit injuria.

that the plaintiff had consented t

the risk of injury of the type he had sustained by voluntarily playing

as a member of the front row and/or participating in the prac-

tice of collapsing thereby also increasing the risk that the oppos-

ing front row might seek to do the

mages in that game.

as five to six collapsed scrums, ar

him and other players in the same position, he could not possibly be needed to stop scrums collapsing and that the referee in such games said to have consented to a breach of duty on the part of the official whose duty it was to apply the rules and ensure so far as possible was under an active duty to do so. In the expert's opinion the referce's responsibility was to en-sure the players did not injure that they were observed.

If the plaintiff had been identithemselves or others, having what he had called "a preventive man-de": that if the CTPE sequence

fied as the prime culprit in causing the collapse then that defence, and contributory negligence, might call for consideration. But that was not the case.

The judge had emphasised that his judgment in the plaintiff's favour was reached on the very special facts of that case. He had not intended to open the door to a plethora of claims by players against referees and it would be deplorable if that were the result. In the court's view, that result should not follow provided all snounce not routed and concerned appreciated how diffi-cult it was for any plainoff to establish that a referee failed to exercise such care and skill as was reasonably to be expected in the circumstances of a hotly contested game of rugby football

The court was caused to wonder whether it would not be beneficial if all players were, as a matter of general practice, to be insured not against negligence but against the risk of catastrophic injury.

That was no doubt a matter to

which those responsible for the administration of rugby football had given anxious attention.

The appeal would be dismissed. Solicitors: Davies Arnold Coo-

Resolving dispute on creditor's petition

Alipour v UOC Corporation Before Lord Justice McCowan, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Hutchison

Hudgment December 171 The Companies Court should not normally refuse to determine a peotion even where it related to the petitioner's locus standi, if the

when allowing an appeal by Golam Reza Alipour from the order of Mr Justice Knox on May 21, 1996 whereby he dismissed a peddion to wind up UOC Corpora-tion, an international business

The perition was a contributory's peridon but the respondents. Fereshteh Ary and Alexander Schweininger, shareholders in UOC Corporation, disputed the petitioner's locus standi. Mr Justice Knox held that the dispute as

Mr Roger Kaye, QC, for the

I WLR 183) which held that where but the petitioner's status as a contributory was in dispute that long been the practice of the Companies Court when faced with a creditor's petition based on a disputed debt to dismiss it, insisting that the dispute be determined outside the petition.

The reason was a pragmatic one. the Companies Court being ill equipped to deal with the resolution of disputes of fact.

It was only a rule of practice and not one of law for the Companies Court to refuse to determine a dispute on the creditor petitioner's locus standi and that rule was flexible especially when to go to another court would effectively deprive the petitioner of any remedy: see in re Russion and English Bank (1932) 1 Ch 663; (1932) 48 Shipping Co SA (1981) Com LR

In In re JN2 Ltd it was said that it was all the more important that a netitioner whose status as a contributory was in dispute should not be permitted to present a petition and thereby interfere with lispositions by the company of its assets and risk damaging the financial standing of the company. II was submitted by the pe-

petitioner's locus standi. if the

not go so far as to say that the court could not take into account the factor that there was a genuine dispute as to the locus standi of the

There might be evidence of damage or inconvenience caused to the company through the continued existence of the petition and the circumstances might indicate that the appropriate course was to require the dispute to be determined outside the petition.

In light of the authorities as

affected by the current procedures of the Companies Court, the current position was: (a) a creditor's petition based on a disputed debt would normally be dismissed; (b) it would not be dismissed if the petitioning creditor had a good arguable case that he was a creditor and the effect of dismissal would be to deprive the petitioner of a remedy or otherwise injustice would result or for some other sufficient reason the petition should proceed; (c) on a contributory's petition where the locus standi of the petitioner was disnuted, the court would consider all the circumstances, including the likelihood of damage to the com-pany if the petition was not dismissed, in determining whether to require the petitioner to seek the determination of the dispute out-

side the petition. In the circumstances of the present case, the court being free to exercise its own discretion, the petition would not be dismissed notwithstanding the dispute as to the petitioner's locus standi but would be allowed to proceed so without a remedy.

Solicitors: Palmer Cowen; Veale Wasbrough, Bristol.

Inducing unfair dismissal gives rise to no liability Corporation

Before Mr Justice Dyson (Reasons November 19) The tort of inducing unfair dismissal did not exist.

Mr Justice Dyson so stated in the Oueen's Bench Division in a reserved judgment giving reasons why he had on November 12 refused leave to the plaintiff. Edwin John Wilson, to amend his statement of claims to add a new cause of action, namely an alleganon that the Housing Corporation induced his former employer, Pierhead Housing Association, to commit an unfair dismissal. In December 1987 Mr Wilson

was summarily dismissed from his employment by Pierhead on the ground of alleged gross mis-conduct. In 1988 he brought proceedings for unfair dismissal in the industrial tribunal. His complaint was upheld and he was warded compensation. In 1993 he instituted proceedings

against the Housing Corporation. By his statement of claim he claimed additional compensation from the corporation by way of damages at common law. He alleged that the corp

Housing committed the tost of intimidation by threatening unlawfully to use its statutory powers unless Pierhead dismissed him; and (iii) committed the tort of misfeasance public office by abusing its

> On the second day of the trial he sought leave to add a fourth cause of action, namely an allegation of inducing Pierhead to commit an

> Mr John Hendy, QC and Ms Beverley Lang for Mr Wilson; Mr Andrew Hochhauser and Mr Paul Stanley for the Housing Corporation. MR JUSTICE DYSON said that

counsel were unable to find any previous authority on the question. Mr Hendy adopted as a correct statement of the law paragraph 23-22 in Clark and Linsell on Tors (17th edition (1995)). He submitted that the essence of the cause of action was that the plaintiff had suffered the violation of a right at the hands of a third party which had been brought about by the knowing and deliberate acts of the

It was a necessary condition of liability on the part of the defendant that the plaintiff should have an enforceable right against the tory duty should give rise to a cause of action and be actionable by the plaintiff against the third party in a court of law

Mr Hochhauser accepted the nce of the tort of inducing a breach of statutory duty. He submitted, however, that it was not every such inducement that was

In particular, he argued that the plaintiff had to show that the right that had been violated by the third party was a legal or equitable right which was capable of forming the basis of a cause of action, that is, capable of being sued upon as a lort: see Associoted British Ports v TGWU (1989) ICR 557, 571B), although Lord Justice Neill was

not there addressing the point to be decided in the present case. Mr Hochhauser submitted that the right not to be unfairly dismissed, created by what was now section 94 of the consolidating Employment Rights Act 1996, was not capable of being sued upon as a tort in a court of law; it could only he the subject of a complaint to an

industrial tribunal.

The statute provided a complete code in respect of remedies for unfair dismissal. The exclusive remedy of an employee for complaint to an industrial tri-bunal. To recognise the existence of the tort of inducing unfair dismissal would upset the special remedies created by Parliament to

deal with unfair dismissal. First, it would require the court determine whether dismissal was unfair. In some cases, such as in the present, an industrial tri hemal would already have ruled on that question; but the decision of the tribunal was not admissible to prove an unfair dismissal: see Hollington v Hewthorn (1943) KB 547) and Land Securities plc v Westminster City Council (1993) I WLR 286, 288E-H).

Second, if the text of inducing unfair dismissal existed, it could only be seed upon in the ordinary courts. Such a claim could not be presented to an industrial tribunal. since such tribunals were creatures of statute and had "no inherent, general or residual jurisdiction": see per Mr Justice Mummery in Secretary of State for Employment v Mann (1996) ICR

.If it was open to the plaintiff to sue the defendant in the ordinary unfair dismissal, then various infringement of his right not to be tions imposed by Parliament on unfairly dismissed was by way of the statutory right to complain Trowers & Hamlins.

about an alleged unfair dismissal could be circumvented. In his Lordship's judgment, the

dismissal did not exist largely for the reasons given above. His Lordship noted that there was no authority requiring him to hold that the tort existed. Nor could he accept that principle obliged him to go down that route when authority did not point the way. Part of the reasoning that led his Lordship to conclude that the tort of inducine unfair dismissal did not exist was that the only breach of stamtory duty that could found a claim for inducing breach of

statutory duty was one which was actionable in the courts. That reasoning was not limited to claims for breach of the statutory duty not to be unfairly dismissed. It would equally apply to rule out as a cause of action the inducing of breaches of other statutory duties the breach of which could not give rise to actions

in the courts. There were in any event reasons dismissal that led to the conclusion dismissal did not exist.

No damages over broken lift

Berryman London Borough Council
The tenant of an i8-storey block of flats who suffered back injury as a result of walking up four flights of stairs because the lift was unavailable was not enoticed to damages for breach of the landlord's duty to

tor oreacn of the landson's duty to keep the lih in working order. The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Aldous) so THE SEA TIMES held on November 20 when unani mously allowing an appeal by the defendant landlord, the London Borough of Hounslow, from a decision of Mr Recorder Atchley at Brentford County Court on July 11. 1995 to award the plaintiff. Bar-bara Marie Berryman, damages of

£24,374.44 for personal injury and

LORD JUSTICE HENRY said that the recorder applied too low a threshold of the foreseeability test. The breach of contract in question was that the lift was immobile when it was needed. An immobile lift was a safe lift. Bin a lift was also a means of

access and it was not unlikely that someone thus incommoded would walk up the stairs. The fact that that might make him marginally more likely in stumble did not make stumbling a foreseeable consequence of the breach of the duty to keep the lift in

Regina v Miah Regina y Akhbar

li was a settled rule of long standing that an appellate court would not receive evidence from jurors about discussions or other matters that took place in the jury box or jury room concerning the cases in which they were acting. The barrier to the reception of such material was not to be found in the Contempt of Court Act 1981 but in a long line of authornies.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Kennedy, Mr Justice John-son and Mr Justice Timothy Walker) so stated on December in a reserved judgment dismissing the appeals of Badrul Hussain Miah and Showkat Akhbar

evidence about jury ber 31, 1995 at the Central Criminal Court (Mrs Justice Steel and a jury). Mish was convicted of conspiracy to inflict grievous bodily harm, violent disorder and

murder, Akhbar was convicted of

violent disorder.

Why court will not hear

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY. giving reasons for the court's refusal on November 8 to adjourn and order an investigation into allegations made in a document prepared by an alleged juror, said that submissions made to their Lordships seemed to have been based upon the false proposition that the court should be prepared to consider any material the obtaining of which would not

section 8(1) of the 1981 Act. However, the barrier to receiv-ing the material was not to be found in that Act but in the long time of authorities, some of which set out in terms why the barrier had to be maintained: see Ellis v

Correction

Deer (1922) 2 KB (13, 121).

In Armstrong and Others v British Coal Corporation (The Times December 6) the firm of Thompson & Co. Sunderland, should be included among solicitors acting for the plaintiffs. British Coal were represented by Nabarro Nathanson, Sheffield.

Strasbourg

Human Rights Law Report

Right not to incriminate oneself infringed

ispectors on nine occasions, on ich of which be was accompanied

by his legal advisors.

Before R. Bernhardt, President

and Judges Thor Vilhjälmsson. F. Golcüklü, L.-E. Pettić. B. Walsh. A. Spielmann. J. De Meyer, N. Valticos, S. K. Martens, E. Palm. R. Pekkaneri, A. N. Loizou, J. M. Morenilla, Sir John Freeland, L. Wikhaber, G. Milsud Bonnici, J. Makarczyk, D. Gotchev, B. Repik and P. Küris

given under legal compulsion dur-ing a statutory investigation into corporate fraud, infringed the applicant's right not to incriminate

The European Court of Human Rights held by 16 votes to four that re had been a violation of article 6.1 of the European Convention on Human Rights. The Court declined in award the applicant compensation but awarded him £75,000 costs and expenses. Article 6 of the Convention provides: "I In the determination of ... any criminal charge against

him, everyone is enotled to a fair ... hearing ... by an independent and impartial tribunal..." Mr Saunders was chief executive officer of Guinness plc when

In December 1986 inspectors appointed by the Department of Trade and Industry began an inquiry into allegations that dur-ing the takeover battle Guinness had artificially maintained or inflated its share price by means of an unlawful share support

He was required by law to answer the questions put to him. Failure to do so could lead to a determination by a court that be was in contempt and the imposition of a line or a prison sentence of up to two years see ections 432(2) and 436(3) of the Companies Act 1985.

In January 1987, the DTI inspec-tors notified the secretary of state that they had found evidence of possible criminal offences. The transcripts and documents obtained as a result of the interviews were passed on to the Crown Prosecution Service which subsequently made them available to the police. The police launched their own investigations at the beginning of May.

The applicant was subsequently charged on 15 counts including eight counts of false accounting two counts of theft and several counts of conspiracy. He and his co-defendents were sent for Irial at the crown court in April 1989.

At a preliminary stage of the proceedings in the crown court, the applicant requested that the eighth and ninth interviews contained in the DTI transcripts be ruled in-admissible. The court upheld his

At his trial the applicant denied any involvement in wrongdoing. The prosecution sought to prove the case against him by using the transcripts of statements he made to the inspectors. At one stage in the trial the prosecution read out to the jury over a three-day period transcripts of interviews he had

false accounting and theft and sentenced him to live years imprisonment in May 1991 the Court of Appeal rejected the appeal on all but one count, but reduced

appeal.
On December 22, 1994 the secretary of state decided to refer the case of the applicant and his co-defendants back to the Court of Appeal in the light of new evidence. On November 27, 1995 the Court of Appeal again rejected the appeal and on December 6, 1995 refused to certify a point of law of general public importance for appeal to the House of Lords.

The application was lodged with the European Commission of Fu-man Rights on July 20, 1988. It was declared admissible on December In its report of May 10, 1994 on

the merits of the application, the Commission expressed the opinion by 14 votes to one that there had been a violation of article 6.1 of the Convention.

I Alleged violation of article 6 A The right not to incriminate The Court observed that the

prosecution at the trial of the statements which the applicant had given to the inspectors under legal compulsion. It was not called upon to consider the conduct of the administrative investigation by the inspectors, which in any event were not subject to the guarantees

applicant's complaint was con-

fined to the use made by the

No 294-B, p47, paragraphs 66 and

The Court stressed that the right not to incriminate oneself, like the right to silence, was a generally recognised international standard nich lay at the heart of the notion of a fair procedure under article 6 of the Convention.

The right, which had close links with the presumption of innocence contained in article 0.2, was primarily concerned with respecting the will of the accused to remain silent.

It did not catend to the use in criminal proceedings of material which might be obtained from the accused under legal compulsion but which had an existence independent of the accused's will such as breath, blood and urine samples and bodily tissue for the purpose of DNA testing.

In the Court's opinion, whether or not the applicant's right not to incriminate himself had been unstifiably infringed in the circum stances of the case depended on the use made by the prosecution at the trial of the statements which he had been obliged to give to the inspectors on pain of sanction. It was trrelevant that they may

not have been self-incriminating. The right not to incriminate oneself could not reasonably be confined to statements of admissions of wrongdoing or to remarks which were directly incriminating since even neutral evidence might be deployed in a way which supported the prosecution's case. As to the use made of the applicant's statements, the Court

The Court noted that part of the transcript of his answers to the inspectors had been read out to the ry over a three-day period de-tite his objections.

Accordingly, there had been an infringement of the applicant's right not to incriminate himself, and the public interst in combating fraud could not be invoked to justify the use of answers com-pulsorily obtained in a non-judicial estigation to incriminate him at

B Alleged misuse of powers by the prosecuting authorities In the light of the above finding, the Court did not find it necessary o examine the applicant's allegations that the prosecuting authori-ties had deliberately delayed the start of the police investigation to enable the inspectors to gather evidence under their compulsory DOWERS.

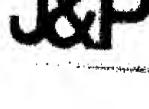
C Conclusion In conclusion, the Court held, Judges Valticos, Gölcüklü, Martens and Küris dissenting, that the applicant was deprived of a fair hearing in violation of article 6.1 of

11 Article 50 of the Conventio The Court declined to make an award for the applicant's pecuniary loss. It noted that it could not speculate on the question whether the outcome of the trial would have been any different had use not been made of the statements by the prosecution, and its finding of a breach of article 6 was not to be

taken to suggest that. As to the applicant's claim for non-peculinary damages, the Court considered that the finding of a violation constituted sufficient just

The Court awarded the applicant E75,000 to cover his costs and expenses in connection with

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six individual seats, all with 3-point seat belts, giving children their own space to minimise the risk of irritation. There are a total of 17 different seat combinations

ensure more peaceful journeys.

Smoldan v Whitworth and Befure Lord Bingham of Cornhill. Lord Chief Justice. Lord Justice

|Judgment December 17]

referee.

player had sued a referee in negligence. his breach of duty. The Court of Appeal so held.

from Mr Justice Curtis |The Times respect of his refereeing of an under 19 colts match on October 19, tuot, in which the plaintiff, Benjamin Smoldon, then aged 175 ously injured when his neck was broken in a collapsing scrum during a match against the Burton

existence of the petition was not likely to cause substantial damage to the company.

The Court of Appeal so held

company, under section 124 of the Insolvency Act 1986.

as a preliminary issue. Mr Victor Joffe for the petitioner;

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIB-SON said that Mr Juscee Knox had referred to In re JN2 Ltd ([1978] there was a contributory's petition lispune should be determined first before the peotion was presented. His Lordship said that it had

longer be followed. It was rightly pointed out, his Lordship said, that

of such a petition was now very It was hard to see why the Companies Court should now normally refuse in determine a

gnificant procedural changes had occurred since 1977. The likelihood of damage being done to a company through the existence

ntioner before their Lordships that that case, although right at the time it was decided, should no

dispute, even if it did relate to the

existence of the petidon was not likely to cause substandal damage or inconvenience to the company. However, their Lordships would AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION Win a £17,200



The Times offers readers the chance to win every family's dream car - the new Toyota Picnic Family Fun Vehicle which will be going on sale in the UK for the first time in January. The six-seater has been designed to make travelling with

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HOW TO ENTER

THE TIMES **TOYOTA** Closing date for picnic entries is first post Friday **TOKEN 4** January 17, 1997.

CHANGING TIMES

Sannders v United Kingdom (Case 43/1994/490/572)

> Registrar H. Petzold Deputy Registrar P. J. Mahoney Judgment December 171 The use by the prosecution at the applicant's trial of statements

> the company bought Distillers ple in April 1986, following a takeover battle with the Argyll Group ple.

with the inspectors. In August 1990, the crown court convicted the applicant on 12 In the first six months of 1987 the counts in respect of conspiracy,

the term of imprisonment to two and a half years. In July 1991 the House of Lords refused leave to

neal to the House of Lords.

In its judgement the European Court of Human Rights held:

of a judicial procedure contained in article 6.1 of the Convention: see Fayed v United Kingdom (The

found that the prosecution had employed in an incriminating nner in order to cast doubt on his honesty and to establish his involvement in the untawful share

GREECE

Michael Knipe on the task facing Costas Simitis and his Government: to reform the poorest state in the European Union

Improving economy brings fresh hope

gainst a backdrop of blockades and strikes by a wide spectrum of the workforce, the Greek parliament is this week debating budget proposals that are generally perceived as a vital test of whether the country can overcome its chronic economic problems and raise its head in the European Community.

Since regaining power in 1993, the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) has made slow but marked progress in turning the economy around. Inflation and

have been dropping, economic growth is increasing and trade has been booming with Eastern Eu-rope and the neighbouring Bal-kan states. The Government knows that it is

vital that these He has a dry. trends continue if Greece is ever to academic manner and is regarded achieve its much desired goal of . joining the European Monetary Union. But the positive develop-ments are overshadowed by the labour unrest. Groups ranging from farmworkers to diplomats are protesting at the austerity meas-

ures in the budget.
"Metaphorically," one diplomatic observer said, "Greece had moved from a red flashing light to a green flashing light so far as its economy is concerned, but everything now depends on how the Government deals with the

The confrontation is a stern first test for Costas Simitis, who sucPapandreou as Prime Minister II

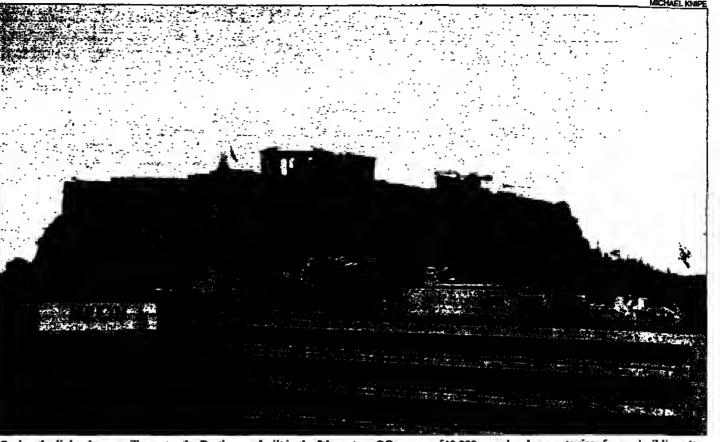
months ago. When Mr Simitis took over as Prime Minister, the ailing Mr Papandreou remained leader of Pasok and it was not until the party congress in June that Mr Simitis became party leader as well. To some international suprise, he consolidated his authority by leading Pasok to victory in a general election in September.

In sharp contrast to his charismatic predecessor, who won three unemployment landslide election victories with free spending pol-

icies. Mr Simitis **6** The economy comes from the moderate social democratic wing has moved from of the party and it was evident from his previous stint a red to a green as a minister that he favoured great-er fiscal discipline. flashing light 9

> as a rather dull but worthy figure. His priority is to rescue Greece from its plight as the poorest and economically sickest state in the EU. But his continuing hold on the leadership is likely to depend on whether he can get people back to work without emasculating the budget and, at the same time. retain the support of the populous left-wing faction of his party.

> "It is a very ambitious and quite draconian budget," said its author, Yannos Papantoniou, the Minister for National Economy and Finance, in an interview in his office, as the labour unrest gathered strength.



Seeing the light the sun silhouettes the Parthenon, built in the 5th century BC, as one of 10,000 new developments rises from a building site

"For the first time we have adopted a severe stance on public expenditure, freezing subsidies, de-creasing recruitment of staff and introducing a new wages structure that limits increases. It is always difficult to implement a tough budget. But it is vital that we do so. We cannot sacrifice the country's economic recovery to the demands of a minority."

His sentiments were echoed by Vasso Papandreou, a former EU Commissioner who is now Minister of Development in the Athens administration and responsible for expanding the Government's privatisation programme, speeding up the disbursement of EU grants and promoting domestic and foreign investment. She said: "We don't have any choice if we don't want to be left behind by our European partners,"

Identification with the EU is a central tenet of Greek political thought. For years, as the poorest member of the union, the country has been on the receiving end of vast tranches of investment aid - running at an estimated \$2 billion a

Under the current six-year grant programme of almost 15 billion ecus, a total of 10,000 infrastructure projects are under way, including a number of large ones. These inchude a new Athens international airport, a bridge across the Corinth Gulf and the Egnatia highway linking the Adriatic with Istanbul.

Only now, as the Government attempts to impose the disciplines required for membership of the European monetary union (EMU). are the benefits of membership being matched by financial conse-

The country has so far failed to attain any of the criteria laid down at Maastricht for membership of the EMU and is the only member state excluded from the launch of EMU planned for 1999. But it is determined to join by the year 2001. Failure to do so might result in its membership having to wait until the further enlargement of the union with the arrival of Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic,

said Mr Papantoniou - and that, he claimed, would effectively mean Greece losing the advantages of 20

years' membership. Even amid the protest strikes, the Greeks remain fervent Europeans. "Everybody assumes that the ecu will be better than the drachma," said Thanos Ve-

remis, director of the Hellenic Foundation for Eurepean and Foreign Policy. There was a fear among Greeks, he said, of drifting out of Europe. Greeks perceived them-

selves as being in a "bad neighbourhood" on the periphery and the only member state with no geographic border with the rest of the union. As a result, they saw membership very dearly in terms of European security. The costs of being in the EU are becoming apparent and this may rock the boat," he said, "but it will not capsize it."

"Unlike Britain, Greece actually wants to participate in the EMU," said Alexos Papadopoulos, the Minister of Internal Affairs and Administration, "so all our policies are directed towards this main

Mr Papadopoulos is charged with restructuring

the Government's bloated adminis-6 Unlike Great tration and is in the process of at-Britain, Greece tempting to reduce the number wants to join of local government authorities the EMU 9 from 6.000 to 1,200. Under

another ambitious administrative reform, only one new public employee may be hired

for every five who leave. Miltiadis Evert, the leader of the opposition New Democratic Party, bemoans the fact that, during the past 15 years, the country's economy has increased by only half the EU average. "Instead of closing the distance, we've increased it. What

ELGIN MARBLES

THE GREEK Government is intensifying its longstanding efforts to repossess the Elgir marbles from the British Museum. Evangelos Venizelos, the Minister of Culture, said he was encouraged by the British Government's action of returning the Stone of Scone to Scotland.

He has put in a fresh request for the return of the marbles to the British ambassador in Athens and to the Heritage Ministry in London. If necessary, he intends to pursue the matter through political and legal procedures involving Unesco, the EU and the Council of Europe. The marbles, consisting of

friezes and figures from the Parthenon, were removed, and saved from probable destruction, by the seventh Earl of Elgin, in 1803, with permission from the local Ottoman administratioo and sold to the British Museum.

Dating from between 467 and 432 BC, the friezes and figures are regarded as the best surviving examples of the work of Phidias.

is needed is to increase free-market enterprise, not increase taxation. in the wake of the election, however, the New Democrats are

in disarray and, in its latest social-

democrat guise, Pasok has stolen

much of its appeal among the business community.

Both Government and Opposition politicians point to the fact that Greece has defence demands because of the perceived threat from neighbouring Turkey that no other EU state faces. "We have a problem of national security," says Mr Papadopoulos. "In the other European states defence spending amounts to 1.72 per cent of GNP, while for us the figure is 7 per cent. This is little understood by our

European partners," The most promising aspect on the horizon for Greece is its developing role as the EU's link with the neighbouring Balkan states as they emerge from their years of communism. Since 1990, exports to the other Balkan countries have increased by an estimated 150 per cent.

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John Carr on how the Greek Finance Minister is trying to cater to the needs of his Socialist party yet still meet the

demands of the Maastricht criteria

"In Greece it is not enough to wind your watch. To get it to work, you must also push the hands round

his Aristophanean dictum. attributed to ex-President Constantine Karamanlis, the architect of Greece's European Union membership, well describes the purpose of the country's 1997 budget. The next few years will see a determined effort to keep this resources-poor nation of ten million people on the road to a vision of Europe-wide wellbeing.

The Maastricht treaty has already begun to change the way the traditionally freewheeling Greeks live and work. But old Mediterranean habits die hard, and the Greeks have never liked fingers being applied to

Yannos Papan-toniou, the Nat-ional Economy Minister, has the unenviable task of trying to chart the Maastricht course. He has remained famously impervious to the threats of the rul-

ing Pasok party's left wing, and the unions it controls. Presenting next year's budget in November, he admitted it was the most controversial of the past 15 or so years. "It's a tough fight but a good fight," he said as the Greek General Confederation of Labour was dusting off the red flags for a one-day strike.

Is this a socialist government? The budger's outward rhetoric said so, but there the resemblance ends. Gross domestic product growth for next year is set at 3.3 per cent while inflation - now 8.3 per cent - is to be hammered down to 4.5 per cent. By some accounts, these are overoptimistic targets, and some business people are smirking. "We've heard it all before," a stockbroker in Athens said after the budget presentation. "Some of this looks unattainable."

Public-sector salary rises, a leading bloater of the state sector over the decades, will be kept down to 8 per cent next year, while pensioners

will get rises of no more than 2 per cent. State revenue is expected to reach 14.8 triffion drachmas, against an expected 14.6 trillion for this year. Most of the rise is to be achieved by slashing tax benefits and raising at least a trillion more drachmas in direct tax revenue.

The dizzying rise of public spending is going to be slowed some-what, with that for next year budgeted at 13.2 trillion drachmas, or 6.2 per cent over this year. The rise for this year over last was 15.1 per cent. Generally, the aim is for public-sector savings of up to 300 billion drachmas, and here is where the cynical smiles come in. "Revenue might show fatigue," is how a report on the Greek economic outlook published by a major American bank delicately puts it,

ment might be forced to take cor-* ECONOMY rective measures **6** Pensioners in the summer". There seems litwill get rises tle doubt that the Government will make a deter-mined effort to of no more than whittle down its 2 per cent ? budget delicit to or near 4.2 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), against the present

and the Govern-

The Maastricht convergence programme, designed to put the drachma in a position to drop neatly into the place reserved for it in the European single currency by 2001, provides for keeping the GDP growth rate well above 3 per cent and pumping the budget primary surplus up to 6.1 per cent (against 4.1 per cent now). That may be the

ore daunting are the Maastricht imperatives to keep on being ruthless with inflation (1999 target: 3.3 per cent), squeezing real short-term interest rates to 6.2 per cent from their present 12.5 per cent and tackling the massive 35 trillion drachma public debt, melting it from 110 per cent of GDP to 103 per cent.

It is a task that could tax even Mr Papantoniou's smiling powers.



Farmers in Larissa block the Athens highway in protest at the Government's austerity measures

A blessing in disguise

ast month's collapse of Delta Securities, a small brokerage firm, prompted a share dealing scandal that rocked the Athens Stock Ex-change (ASE), but it may have been a blessing in disguise for the Greek stock market.

Yannos Papantonion, the National Economy Minister, has said: "The Athens Stock Exchange will come out stronger from its recent crisis, which will be seen eventually as a crisis of

cleansing and modernisation."
The ASE, founded in 1876, is the sole regulated capital market where shares of listed Greek companies and government and corporate bonds are traded. The exchange plans to bring Greece's active bond market, presendy traded over-the-counter, to the bourse next year.

market is capitalised at \$24 billion and has

instrumental in attracting much-STOCK needed overseas investment with **EXCHANGE** successful investor roadshows in. London, Boston and New York. Dr Xanthakis said: "The Greek

232 listed companies. The Greek market has huge potential, because it is among the cheapest markets on fundamentals as well market's fundamentals remain attractive for investors, with a current price/earnings multiple as offering a very attractive of only 10 times for 1997. The ASE general index, which comprises dividend policy." The ASE received a fillip from of 60 leading companies, has now recovered to above the 900 last year's brokerage commissioo

level and prospects remain bright deregulation, reducing fees, as long as structural and economwhile legal changes brought the ic reforms are implemented. market in line with EU directives The ASE's regulatory frameconcerning investment services and capital adequacy, as well as work has been modified, improving regulation, operation and increasing transparency and liquidity. The market's developtransparency. From the latter part of 1995, the ASE, under the ment and transparency will be further boosted by a partial presidency of Dr Manolis privatisation programme and the funding from the EU for a string Xanthakis, entered a process of institutional changes, with the aim of modernising the capital of major infrastructure projects. market and attracting foreign investors. Dr Xanthakis has been

PHILIP PANGALOS

Financiers battle against inflation

The Bank of Greece is helping to cool the economy's inbuilt tendency to overheat

DANKING ...

ast and wood-panelled, the office of the Governor of the Bank of Greece, Loukas Papadimos, is a quiet, comfortable ace. He needs the quiet because his days are filled with brewing the proper policy mix which, after much trial and error, can reasonably be expected to cool down an economy with an inbuilt tendency

His own equable and soft-spoken character could also be a vital ingredient in getting a Socialist government to go along with his recommendations. There are no foodspared of the second letters are not better the second letters are not second letters are not second letters. fundamental differences between the bank and the Government on basic policy," he says. Which is his way of saying that even if the National Economy Ministry does have qualms from time to time about the central bank's relentlessly tight money policies, it knows it cannot offer anything better. Suc-cess in the battle

against inflation is Mr Papadimos's biggest

6 In two years, showpiece. In the past two years. inflation inflation has has been pressed down from 11.1 per cent to 7.7 per cent dropped by (a consecutive rise 3.4 per cent ? for a few months last spring was blamed on an un-

avoidable spurt in oil and farm produce prices). "Our priority is to work out a policy that will bring inflation down at least three percentage points through the year." he says, "If rates have to rise temporarily as a result, then it will

be a price worth paying."
Since 1994 the Bank of Greece has been officially independent of the Greek state. This means that its governor can no longer (theoretically) be subject to political pressures. It also indicates that the Government's target of 4.5 per cent inflation by the end of 1997 has a reasonable chance of being achieved.

Mr Papadimos's tenure is characterised by an emphasis on exchange-rate manipulation rather than money and credit controls to keep the drachma hard and ward off foreign speculative tentacles, Exporters and tour operators are unhappy, but the governor is sticking to his guns. A major

objective for 1996 has been to stabilise the drachma against a basket of European currencies.

But if quiet, confident conserva tism reigns in the Bank of Greece, the same cannot be said of the commercial banking sector. For a start, as of January 1997 commercial banks are going to have to start paying more taxes. The basic corporate tax on profits rises from 35 to 40 per cent while, for the first time, they will be taxed on bonds and derivatives profits at 7.5 per cent. Some government officials

say it is high time. In the space of a year, banks have profited from sales of popular oneyear treasury bills, 6 trillion drachmas' worth of which were sold this year, against 5.8 trillion last year. Foreign exchange deposits in the same period soured from 4.7 trillion drachmas to 5.2 trillion. Loans to the private sector this year will total 9.1 trillion drach-

mas, against 7.5 rillion last year.
The 1997 projection is for 10.5 trillion. And in the space of a year, prime rates have followed deposit and interbank ward course. while consumer loan exposure has

skyrocketed. All these multiplying trillions have sharpened competition beyond what was imaginable when Greek banking reforms got under way in 1987.

The architect of those reforms, former corporate lawyer Theodore Karatzas, is now the governor of the National Bank of Greece, the country's biggest commercial bank. He and other bankers believe that the state banking sector will consist eventually of two or three big banks, and an equal number of large private banks. Who survives will depend on innovations, such as the penetration of the emerging Balkan markets by such institutions as the Commercial Bank of Greece and Ionian Bank.

If anything, the realignments in the banking sector will hone the banks' efficiency, reduce costs and rates and help the national effort to cool down the economy.

JOHN CARR



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FOCUS

nciers bath Rivals go nst inflation

to war in phones battle

FILECOMS:

ominating the view from the Athens office of Giacinto Cicchese, the managing director of Telestet Hellas, a mobile phone network, is the headquarters of the Greek state Hellenic Telecommunications Organisation (OTE).

Mr Cicchese could permit himself a smile that the Italian-controlled company had left the lumbering state tele-phone company far behind. That is, until recently.

For in 1997 OTE is to strike back with its own cellphone service, a DCI800 mobile network. Potential partners have been shortlisted. Egged on by the European Commission which does not approve of the Greek mobile phone service duopoly (Telester's rival is a locally controlled firm, Pana-fon) — OTE is on the verge of starting up a cellular network that will cover mainland Greece and the islands.

On the face of it, there is room for expansion. By the end of the year both Telestet and Panafon will boast 460,000 subscribers between them - a 50 per cent rise in just six months. Five per cent of Greece's 10 million people have a cellphone, Panafon in which Vodafone has a 45 per cent stake — is in front by a

narrow margin. But just when both companies, having spent £600 million in four years, were about to start dreaming of profits, OTE had to step in and spoil the fun. "For a long time," Mr Cicchese says, "the Greek state telephone com-pany failed to realise what was going on."

Now the giant has awak-ened, both he and his rival, Socrates Kokkalis, are joining forces to challenge the challenger. The Greek Supreme Court has before it their argument that the original 1992 mobile telephony licensing agreement gives them exclusive rights in Greece until 2000. Lawyers for the utility counter that OTE was unfairly excluded from the 1992 bidding and that its fixed-wire access charges have remained unchanged in four years....

and not just in Brussels. Its 120 billion drachmas project, for which Credit Suisse First Boston is an official adviser, is wooing potential partners such as France's Bouygues, Germany's Mannesman Europe and Britain's Orange.

The winner could be picked as early as this month. In technical terms, the DC1800-system has more than twice the capacity of the more con-ventional GSM systems which Panafon and Telestet operate. OTE's target is 40 per cent of. the cellphone market in the ext three years.



Costas Simitis, the Greek Prime Minister, was accused of mishandling the Imia affair

Old Aegean foes

celebrate the coming new year, both wil vividly recall that it is barely a year since President Clinton telephoned the leaders of both nations in a bid successful, as it turned out to avert a war in the Aegean

between two Nato members. Whether Greek-Turkish tensions erupt again in the course of 1997 may depend not only on the progress of international arbitration over the contested Aegean islands at the heart of the dispute a year ago, but also on another of the many points of contention between the two quarrelling members of Nato's southern flank: Cyprus. Negotiations for Cyprus's

membership of the European Union are due to begin as soon as the inter governmental conference (IGC) on the revision of the Maastricht treaty is completed, which is likely to be by the end of 1997.

If Cypriot EU negotiations coincide with progress on resolving the bitter division of the island - with Sir David Hannay, Britain's special enRichard Owen reports on fresh

efforts to ease tensions over Cyprus

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

UN efforts - Greek-Turkish relations will ease as a consequence.

However, given the mutual mistrust between Athens and Ankara, tensions could also arise on a range of unresolved issues from territorial waters and air space to drilling rights in the Aegean. Greece's Medi-terranean policy — indeed, its overall foreign policy — is dominated by the Turkish threat".

The 1996 "near war" re-volved round joint claims to a tiny, rocky and barren island in the Dodecanese chain, called Imia in Greek and Kardak in Turkish. It took all the skills of Richard Holbrooke, the senior American diplomat who had brokered the Bosnian peace agreement, to calm the situation down.

Costas Simitis, then as now Greek Prime Minister, was accused of mishandling the affair, and in the ensuing row fired the then Greek chief of staff. Admiral Chrisios

For the Greeks, Imia, which is under four miles from the Turkish coast, was and remains an issue of principle. The 1923 Treaty of Lausanne gave Greece most of the east-ern Aegean islands except the Dodecanese. But they too passed to Greece (from defeated Italy) after the Second World War — although the Turks maintain that the wording of the 1947 agreement is

long with Cyprus, the simmering row over lmia - and a ___thousand other tiny islands - has put the Greek-Turkish standoff near the top of the Western "problem solving" agenda after Bosnia, On the other hand, the West has

noted with relief that both Greece and Turkey have domestic preoccupations which, for the time being, are keeping the conflict off the boil. Turkey, in addition to the Kurdish question, is preoccupied with keeping intact the fragile coaliuon formed in June by Necmentin Erbakan, leader of the Islamic Welfare party.

Mr Simitis is keen to get a grip on Greece's rising defence costs and use the resources to help the Greek economy meet EU criteria instead.

Diplomats in the region hope that the desire of both Turkey and Cyprus for EU membership will provide a "European framework" for progress toward a bi-zonal and federated Cyprus, and that international crisis management will continue to keep the lid on tensions.

Recent history offers plenty scope for less optimistic forecasts, however. According to the UN, both Greece and Turkey are among the world's biggest importers of conventional weapons, and are building up their armed forces at a time when most Western nations are cutting back.

Taxes could sink the fleet

one of the world's stock characters. Since the heady days of the Onassis and Niarchos empires, they have built up and maintained a maritime power that rests on some \$60 billion

in combined assets, John Carr writes. Twenty-eight shipowners control more than 1 million tonnes of merchant

Most of those billions, and most of the hulls, have only a tenuous connection with Greece itself. The Greek flag is raised on only a third of their vessels; the rest are decorated with flags of convenience.

Now the Greek Government plans to impose a host of taxes on shipping and related activity as of January 1, 1997. The taxes, shipowners fear, might well drive masses of vessels away from the Greek flag and plunge the nowbustling port of Piraeus - not to mention the Greek economy - into terminal decline. The magnates are not wor

in Piraeus or New York or London or Monte Carlo, they can still control their 3,200. ships (130 million tonnes, or one-sixth of the global merchant fleet).

But most shipowners would like to maintain more than a name-only connection with their homeland. Besides, the Greek-flag fleet of 29.5 million tonnes is almost exactly half the European Union total, which means Greece can steer European maritime policy.
In October the EC decided that Europe's shipping estab-

lishments need more not

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fewer, incentives to growth. Which makes the Greek Government's actions all the more inexplicable.

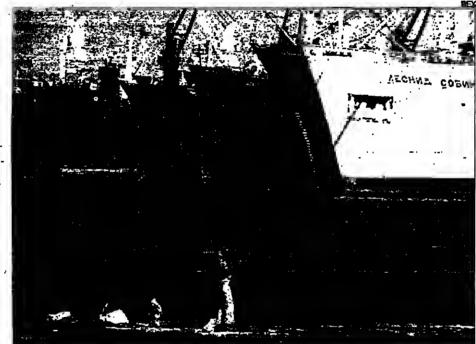
As of January, if all goes to plan, all tax exemptions on the buying and selling of vessels, transfers of ship equity in part or in whole, borrowing money from banks to buy ships and ship repair jobs are abolished.

Even before the tax change, low freight rates had slowed up a two-year shopping spree by the Greeks, who had been snapping up secondhand in on a vigorous Far East trade. This autumn, overcapacity and high overheads fuelled a flight from the Greek flag. The Government's blow falls just at the wrong time.

For passenger ferry opera-tors, the future looks considerably rosier. Since war in former Yugoslavia choked off that country as a surface access route to Greece, truckers and motoring tourists alike have had to use the only alternative - the ferry route from Italy. Profits have come

Most successful has been Attica Enterprises, which operates two new cruise linerstandard ferries, aptly named SuperFast I and SuperFast II, which do the Ancona-Patras route in a recordbreaking 20 hours. Attica has said it is spending \$200 mil-

lion for two more fast ferries. The competition is being spurred into action. Minoan Lines is spending \$110 million on a 31,000-tonne hot-rod of its own, to place alongside its new Aretousa and beat the 20hour record. If this keeps up, the Adriatic Sea could become a distinctly unsafe place on which to go sailboating.



The Greeks have built up a shipping empire worth \$60 billion in combined assets

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Recently, 3E has started to expand beyond Greece. Driven by the same values and principles but with new goals in and progress, and to broaden its horizons. sight, 3E will continue its efforts to grow



Broadening Horizons

BALKAN INVESTMENT

From rusty ships to football pools and ice cream

ineteen years ago Constantine Kallentzis, a ship broker based in the northern Greek port of Salonica, received a strange request. Albania, then deep in Stalinist isolation, vanted him to run its tiny fleet

of merchant ships. "The regime was quite seri-ous and genuinely seemed to want to learn how to do it." says Mr Kallentzis, who still manages the Albanian state merchant fleet — all of eight usting hulls - as part of his Salonica business, Naftilos Maritime Limited.

For years he was one of the few foreigners allowed into Albania (he declines to say why the Albanians picked him). In 1991, when communism was history. Naftilos set up a branch in Albania's capital, Tirana. The country's economy remains one step away from chaos. Maritime law does not exist. The ships themselves are falling apart. "We're spending all our money on repairs," says Mr Kallentzis, although he admits his company earns an undisclosed freight commission from Albania.

Mr Kallentzis say the hardest task of all is to inculcate a modern business menuality in the Albanians. After 19 years, he is nothing if not patient. You can't become a capitalist overnight," he says. Greek economic penetration of the Balkans thus far has required

precisely that attitude. Spearheading the pack is intracom, an electronics and telecoms equipment conglomerate, which has ploughed

hundreds of millions of dollars into Balkan ventures from lottery and football pool systems to cardphones. This year Intracom signed a \$40 million deal with the Bulgarian Government to computerise its state sports lottery in return

for 5 per cent of the revenues. Headed by Socrates Kokkalis, one of the most influential people in Greece, his unassuming manner and love of football (he owns Olympiakos) plays well in Eastern Europe. Building on the profits from state lotteries in Romania. Moldova and Russia, plus a 68 per cent stake in Bullon, a Bulgarian telecoms firm supplying cardphones. Intracom is pushing its line forward. Last month it signed a \$10 million contract with HTC, the Hungarian telecommunica-

tions organisation. You really don't have to my too hard in the Balkan markets," is how an executive of Helienic Bottling Company sums up the very open market. The company handles the Coca-Cola franchise in Bulgaria and Romania.

elta Dairy SA, a big milk, yoghun and ice cream producer, has built an ice cream factory in Varna, Bulgaria, and says it knows the secret of survival in a risky environment. "The return on investment should not be demanded back immediately," a company statement says. "Profits must be ploughed back for a couple of

JOHN CARR



In 1995 the Greek economy emered into an era of economic recovery. Close adherence in the Convergence Programme brought down inflation rate in single digit for the first time since 1973, while GDP increased by more than 2% which is above the target of the Convergence Programme, Likewise, interest rates on I year Treasury Bills decreased by simately 3.3 percentage points since the end of 1994 and by almost 4 percentage points on an average basis. Private investment activity, which increased by 7% was complemented by a strong rise in public investment by 20%. The increase in private investment contributed to the worsening of the balance on current account. However, in the long run, the development of new infrastructure projects will increase employment and output.

The overall improvement in macroeconomic figures led to an upsurge of the Greek capital market. Equities market capitalisation at the end of 1995 equaled approximately GRD 4 trillion, thus showing an increase of 23% as against the end of 1994, while the ASE General Price Index increased by 5.2% during the year, as opposed to a 9.3% decrease during 1994. Equines turnover increased by 11.3% over the year. Capital raised by IPOs in 1995 decreased by 75% since 1994 but the variety of companies being fisted was reinforced The P/E ratio equaled 9 at the end of 1995. The overall performance of all listed stocks, as defined by their daily price changes adjusted for dividend psymens, improved in 1995, and the majority of stocks exhibited positive

returns. Thus, in 1995, shares in the main and the parallel market showed a 🛣

return of 17.9% and 36.7%, respectively The introduction of new products into the capital market, as well as trading by remote access is expected to enhance the appeal of the capital market both to investors and m issuers. We believe that the sector most likely to outperform the General Price Index is the Construction companies' as it will benefit from the implementation of major Furthermore, the majority of listed companies will be influenced by the harmonisation and expansion of trade in the Balkan area, since as mention the Emerging Markets Analysis:the Greek corporate sector will likely be the biggest commercial winner of the new Balkun potce agreements.

Trading facilities available from the newly established Exchange Center in Thessaloniki will extend the capacity of the capital market, while preserving us unity. Shares of companies operating in the Balkans are expected to be traded therein, reinforcing the international profile of the Greek capital market. Finally, the dematerialisation of shares within the first trimester of the year will speed up the seulement procedure. The ultimate goal is to achieve a settlement time of T+2, as opposed to

T+4 which is the rule today. As political and economic stability settles down to normal in the Balkan area, Greece assumes again its important position baking European Union with the Balkans, the Black Sea and the Middle East, h's time investors showed faith into the Greek capital market and established the ATHENS STOCK EXCHANGE as the

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Michael Knipe meets the Mayor of Athens, who is helping it to recapture the glory of Greece

My dream is to bring home the Olympics

giant crane is situated in the centre of the temple of the Parthenon atop the Acropolis and another in ntagma Square, where the view of the elegant 19th-century Greek parliament is blocked by construc-

tion-work hoardings.

Amid the sprawling concrete apartment blocks of central Athens, Academy of Science, Athens University and the National Library buildings are similarly afflicted, with the surrounding pavements dug up and the pneumatic drills competing with the traffic noise.

The immediate cause of most of the construction work is the extensive excavations being carried out to implant a modern El.25 billion three-line metro system. This has created more than 50 under-

ground excavation sites across the city. The metro ment in a substantial programme of renovation aimed both at modernising Athens, recapturing something of the glory of its past, and reinforcing its efforts to host the Olympic Games in

For years the city has been synonymous with the worst symptoms of urban decline; toxic smog. traffic jams, overcrowding and incompetent administration. This was brought home to the world when it became evident that the monumental marble pillars of the Parthenon, having survived for 2,500 years, were crumbling away like sandstone because of the ravages of the 20th century.

The European Union declared Athens the most polluted city on the Continent. In a desperate attempt to alleviate the smog and congestion, cars have been banned, according to their registration on odd or even days. Last summer, temperatures of 102F forced the banning of all private cars and half of the taxis from the city centre.

With a population that has ballooned since the 1950s to 4.5 1960s concrete block where it had

million — nearly half the population of Greece - Athens also has to cope with eight million visitors a stretched beyond its limits.

But a new mood is emanating from the recently refurbished City Hall. Dimitris Avramopoulos, the Mayor of Athens, says: "There are first phase of the metro project will be ready for use next November and will serve half a million people a day. When it is completed it will have the effect of removing 400,000

Athens, at present, is a huge workshop but even in a year's time a lot of things will be different. Already pollution has been reduced by 30 per cent.

This had been done, says the

INFRASTRUCTURE 6 Should we win it will be a fitting testament to the

renaissance of our city 9

mayor, by the introduction of bylaws pedestrianising a triangu-lar section of the city centre between Syntagma and Omonia squares and the ancient Agora quarter, forcing the worst old cars and buses off the streets and closing down big industrial projects situated in the centre of the city. "I hope that by the end of the century, Athens will be one of the cleanest

cities in Europe," he says, The mayor, a suave and vigorous 43-year-old former diplomat and member of parliament for the conservative New Democracy Party, has, in the first two years of his four year term as mayor, brought a dynamic style of leadership to municipal affairs.

Nothing illustrates this better than his decision to move his municipal office out of the drab years, and back into the original Athens city hall, an elegant neoclassical edifice which, during that time, had been left virtually dere-lict. At his direction the old municipal building, inaugurated in 1874.

Visitors are greeted by a bust of Pericles on the landing of a great staircase. Oak donrs, 15-feet high, dominate the palatial reception rooms. Ancient Greek and Macedonian motifs are everywhere. Two backlit glass cabinets house miniature effigies of all past mayors, meticulously costumed and startlingly life-like, in a miniature Madame Tussaud's.

The city flag - also an Avramopoulos concept — features a central profile of Athene. the goddess of wisdom. "The refurbishment of the city hall symbolises our determination to return Athens to its former glory," says Mr Avramopoulos. "Our first objective is to enhance the city's sense of its own identity, to reinforce its significance on the consciousness of its citizens. The future of this city is still its past, so we must

rotect our heritage,
"Athens should be a symbol for the whole world - for all the people who share the values that were born here, It is not the political capital of Europe, neither is it the cultural capital, but it is the historical capital."

The mayor heads a 40strong city council, in which the New Democracy councillors enjoy a majority of ten, and operates with an annual budget of 107 billion drachma. Under the Government's austerity programme, he says, the Athens council cannot obtain any more funding from the central administration but it has been given the right to impose local





The Mayor of Athens: "The future of this city is still its past"

10 billion drachmas on the buildings in the city being used by the central administration. The Government is shocked," the mayor says with a smile of triumph."

He maintains that the city, whose bid to host the games in 1996 failed, has a realistic prospect of hosting the 2004 Olympics. "Athens, this time, is ready," he says. "The Olympics infrastructure is 80 per axes. cent complete. The new metro will be capable of carrying 780.000

people a day, a new international airport with an annual capacity of 16 million passengers is due for completion in the year 2000 and comprehensive improvements to

the road network will be finished." Athens is also, he claims, the Continent's least violent capital with the lowest rate of drug use "There is a passion behind our bid to stage the Olympics. Should we win it will be a fitting testament to the renaissance of our city."

Unearthing a city below the pavements

Train tunnels have revealed ancient treasures, Helen Iatrou reports

ncient and modern ver-sions of Athens have posed to each other through one of Europe's largest current construction projects — the development of the Greek capital's underground metro network.

Two giant excavators, known as the Metro Mice, are tunnelling a solution to Athens's suffocating transportation problem and have in the process, uncovered a goldmine of archaeological finds. They date from Neolithic times, via the 2,500-year-old age of Pericles to the 14th-century Byzantine period.

Trapped for centuries under layers of rubble, the finds — 2,000 in all - are to be displayed not only in museums but also in their new setting alongside passengers' platforms, providing a novel feature compared to most other European

*AICHAEDEOLES The metro's construction has proved to be the 6 Metro Mice biggest archaeo-logical excavauncover a times," says Ligoldmine **9** ana Parlama, head of the 40 archaeologists

supervising the finds. "Some amazing discoveries have been made, though damages have also, inevitably, been registered in the drive to complete the network."

Contractors say that, due to the difficulties posed in digging up a relie-rich city like Athens, an additional Dr 100 billion (£260 million) is required. Metro employees are back on the job but the two Metro Mice are taking a break until early next year while the parties concerned and the Government meet this month to find a solution to these technical problems.

Among the most important discovenes of the dig, which is 90 per cent complete, has been a marble column engraved with the names of 21 Athenian riders. and their tribe, killed during the 5BC Peloponnesian Wars. One of the most ancient finds is an 11th-century BC grave of the post-Mycenaean era, found just under Athens's Syntagma The rarest find is a 5th-century

BC bronze head of a semi-lifesize statue, found embedded in a wall underneath the National Gardens.

The most unusual discovery is a well-preserved grave of a small hunting dog, which included the owners' belongings and nails from the dog's leather collar. The most expansive finds were made at the Kerameikos station. They feature about 1,000 ancient graves, spread over one acre square, with a rich collection of artefacts covering ten centuries from the 7th century BC to the 3rd century AD.

What Mrs Parlama describes as "the greatest find" were sprawling Roman public baths of the 3rd century AD, 157 metres long. Their existence

was unknown to arebacologists. even though they were found only 10cm beneath the asphalt on busy Amalias Avenue near the Tomb of the Unknown

What the archaeologist described as a "very pleasant surprise" was the discovery of a 100metre ancient roadway, totally

clude post-Roman luxufrescoes, already moved to the Byzantine Museum; workshop installations of the 4th and 5th centuries BC with foundries for the production of copper statues; remains of Emperor Adrian's aqueduct, water supplies and drainage networks and other infrastructural evidence.

All together, Mrs Parlama says, the discoveries now allow the experts to put together a much clearer picture of ancient Athens. She says it renders imperative the construction of a Museum of Athens which, astonishingly, it does not already

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ATHENS METRO

One of the major infrastructure projects and particularly the most complex under construction in Europe nowadays, is the Athens Metro project.

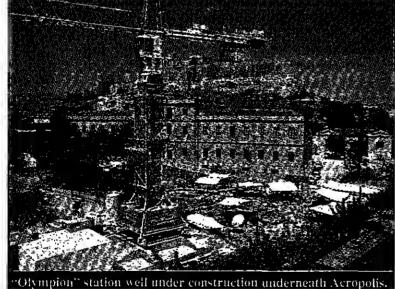
Athens, since 1869, already had a suburban connection of the City with Piraeus - the main Greek port. This line developed in a metro line of 26km length. The major decision was to construct two new metro lines, fully underground, with three connection points with the existing line.

In June 1991, following an international tender, the Greek state signed a lumpsum price turnkey contract with Olympic Metro, a consortium of 22 companies from France, Germany and Greece, led by Siemens and Interinfra SA.

ATTIKO METRO S.A., a new company, was charged with the management of the project and the operation of the system after completion. The staff of this company consists of international mass transit experts from Becbtel International Inc., providing technical and project management support, who work jointly with experienced Greek

The new Metro lines, 18km with 21 stations radiate in four directions from Syntagma Square - the most central point of the city. The new Metro lines will operate within 1999 and will serve approximately 450,000 passengers daily, in addition to the 300,000 passengers currently being served by the existing line. The train intervals in peak hours will be 3 minutes and the entire system will be accessible to persons with special needs.

The total budget for the main project amounts to 2 billion ECU. The European Union and the European Investment Bank are financing up to 90% of the project through grants and loans respectively, while the remaining funds are being provided by the Greek state. This funding pattern



provides guarantees to ensure the necessary sources through the completion of the project. Today 3400 workers employed

in more than 50 locations throughout the city are realizing this enormous project on a dayto-day basis. To date, tunnelling operations have completed almost 10km of tunnels, while all 21 new stations are well under construction with works concentrated on architectural finishes and electromechanical installations. The majority of the archeological excavations that preceded the main construction works and covered a vast area of 70,000sq.m. revealing archeological finds 30 centuries old, have been almost completed. Plans have been made for some of these artifacts to be exhibited in mini-museums at selected stations of the new Metro lines. Overall, more than 50% of the project is complete and all time schedules seem to get close dayby-day to the operation date in

Any assessment of this project's value should look beyond numbers of users, to the other long-term benefits it will bring to the metropoilitan areas. The quality of life for Athenians will

be upgraded and the city will become more attractive for tourists and business visitors. But the most significant contribution of this project will be to the environment, since it is anticipated that a drastic reduction in daily automobile trips will occur, which inevitably will decrease air pollution. Moreover, Metro users will realize a time saving of over 50%, compared to making trips with other modes transportation.

Unlike the past, Athens of today is determined to build a better future for the generations to come and in this future the Metro project may very well be a part of the gateway for the modern Greece of the 21st century.



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TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANISATION S.A.



OTE is the telecommunication operator in Greece with a monopoly to provide fixed telephony until the year 2003. In 1995 its income before tax was 930 million dollars and in 1996 as estimated, the net income before tax will be more

Its total revenues constitute some 2.5 percent of Greece's national GDP and it is the most profitable company in the

The remarkable organization is now changing from its base as a telecommunications monopoly into a modern, competitive company, determined to expand its markets and realize the strong potential of its position.

les mission is to consolidate that position as the dominant telecommunications company in Greece, so that long before the year 2000 - when its domestic monopoly ends - it has a commanding lead, in oot just voice telephony but also in the complete range of wireless data and other emerging telecommunication services.

This year alone OTE plans capital expenditure of 1.1 billion dollars. Over the next five years it has plans to spend more than 3.9 billion dollars on exchanges, oetworks and internation projects. This investment will bring benefits throughout its operations.

OTE's capital expenditure will be financed by three sources. Firstly, it has strong cash flow. Given its projected rate of increase in revenues OTE expects future cash flow to be sufficient for funding both its operations and its investment

Secondly, the equity offering has partially financed its 1996

Finally, a significant proportion of its capital expenditure will be increased by European Union subsidies or by joint ventures with strategic partners.

OTE's ambitious investment programme is reflected in the additional debt it has been incurring over the last few years. Though its net debt to equity ratio rose until 1995, the equity offering has returned leverage ratios to below those of 1992. OTE's balance street is very strong.

OTE has a significant potential for revenue growth. Operating costs shoold grow moderately and its capital expenditure should be largely financed through its cash flow. That means it expects to see strong bottom-line growth. Net income is expected to grow by a compound annual rate in double digits over the next five years. This is a health

OTE has seen both revenues and profits grow significantly. Its revenues has grown at an annual compound rate of 8% in real terms, rising from 211 billion drachmas (\$879 million) in 1990 to 593 billion drachmas (\$2.5 billion).

In order to increase further its revenues, OTE is implementing a substantial capital expenditure programme to modernize its network, in an investment that enables the company to bring real, tangible benefits to its revenue

Digitalizing its network also enables OTE to time-charge local calls and increase revenues by charging the full duration of each call. By the year 2000 the company should reach 80% digitalization of the entire country, so it will be doubling its revenues from this untapped market.

OTE's network is becoming more and more sophisticated and is able to introduce new value-added services such as voice mail, call-redirection and call waiting. Finally, by increasing the number of completed calls in this.

way OTE can further boost revenue from its fixed telephone

The company is already seeing a positive change in its revenue mix income from new services, which provide higher margins, is taking a greater share of its total revenues. . Its operating income rose by 15% and its net income also rose by 11% each year.

Its margins have been rising to the last few years. The operating margin rose from 27% in 1992 to 40% to 1995. In the same period its net margio rose from 16% to 24%. These figures reflect OTE's ability to rapidly adapt to more modern operating conditions, with a steadily improving network, a siness-minded management team and a rationalized work

It also has considerable flexibility to rebalance tariffs. Time charging for local calls is realizing untapped revenues in its basic telephony business. It is introducing new value-added services and it looks forward to the increasing traffic generated by PCN, paging and and its expanding international services. OTE's forecasts suggest that its revenues will continue to grow at a double-digit rate. In the field of operating costs OTE has seen annual growth, io real terms of 4% during the past five years.

As it grows OTE is focusing on operating more efficiently and controlling labour costs and has a strategy for rationalizing staff levels. At the same time it is realizing efficiencies by restructuring its organization.

There will be an increase io its sales and marketing workforce, particularly in view of enhanced focus on the customer. On balance, though, it expects staff costs will

The increased productivity becomes most obvious when viewed on a 'line per employee' basis. OTE's current ratio of 210 lines per employee to asis. OTE is current ratio of 210 lines per employee is so good that it ranks 5th amongst European telecommunication companies. And it will get better. By 2000 the company expects the figure to

The company is determined to take advantage of the remarkable opportunity it faces today and to focus on the its activities within the domestic Greek marker, which forms the heart of its operations.

lts market share is expected to increase steadily in the coming years. In this way its investment programme will deliver real benefits to its business in terms of increasing both revenues and customer satisfaction.

To achieve its goal of creating a competitive onmpany culture. OTE has segmented its customer base. Each segment has distinct service requirements and revenueproducing potential.

To serve them, the company has established distinct channels dedicated to understanding their specific needs. During the past year OTE has successfully established a major accounts management team and is currently upgrading its nation-wide chain of tele-shops.

To support these sales channels, OTE has developed a portfolio of products and services which can be tailored to the segment they serve and be provided to residential customers with basic telephone lines as value added services, which widen the company's offerings to the customer and aid its move into the mobile telephony market. Greece is an exciting country with an emerging economy. Telecommunications is one of the world's most dynamic

industries. In OTE these opportunities go hand in hand...

Pasides by

HE TIMES WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18 1996

earthing a cir v the pavemy Helen latious

THEATRE 1

Jessica Lange prepares for her West End debut in the 'inexhaustible' role of Blanche DuBois



THEATRE 2

. while, on Broadway, Joel Grey wows the crowds in the Kander and Ebb musical Chicago THE



■ THEATRE 3 A miniature Sondheim musical, Marry Me A Little.

comes to the

London fringe



TOMORROW

Has Alan Parker succeeded in turning Evita into a great film? Read Geoff Brown's view

THEATRE: A double Oscar winner hits the West End in a modern classic; plus reviews from New York and London

Looking for the right home in Tennessee

ew theatrical debuts in recent years seemed as brave as that by Jessica Lange on Broadway in 992. In a season in which movie tars were returning to the stage en nasse - Glenn Close, Gene Hacknan and Richard Dreyfuss in Death and the Maiden, Alan Alda in Neil Simon's Jake's Women ange was making her New York · rofessional stage debut as Blanche "DuBois in Tennessee Williams's A istreetcar Named Desire. Not bad or someone whose theatrical CV in to then consisted of early work huring her expatriate period in rance and a summer stock proluction in North Carolina of an sriginal play whose name she no

onger remembers. Fourteen years as partner to the re-eminent American dramatist iam Shepard, bowever, presumably counts for something; alhough Lange says the couple do not talk theatre — our lives are so illed up with children and other hings that that kind of stuff within he home takes precedence -- she learly recognises quality when she inds it. (Lange has three children, wo by Shepard and an older laughter by her previous compan-on, Mikhail Baryshnikov.)

In the event, director Gregory Mosher's Streetcar revival, with Alec Baldwin as Blanche's destroyer, Stanley, did near-capacity business for six months. On the strength of those names. Amy Madigan's Stella included, how could it not? It was bolstered by a Tony Award nomination for Bal-· iwin and a steamy ad campaign promising an evening of sweaty sex that Williams's tragedy is hardly about. But along with the crowds ame a cache of disappointed (and ome damning) reviews alongside ⇒ sense → on Lange's part, at least - of unfinished business.

That is why the two-time Oscarwinner, now 47, accepted Peter Hall's offer to tackle the part anew in the West End, having followed he Broadway run with a separate. 'like when you live in a small town

Will London prove a happier hunting ground for Jessica Lange in her third shot at Blanche DuBois? Matt Wolf reports

most

plays 9

CBS television version that again featured Baldwin (with Diane Lane and John Goodman as Stella and Mitch). At a point when most performers would have filed away their reviews and moved on, Lange is preparing a third Blanche, suggesting in the process a devotion to the role comparable on this side of the Atlantic to Kenneth Branagh's pursuit of Hamlet. This character is pretty mex-

of the discovery of Blanche. I just knew with a differ-ent cast [Toby Stephens and Imogen Stubbs as Stanley and Stella and a different director, it was going to have a

from the other two I. had done before, and it does: f. haven't given one thought to the run we did in New

Lange is not keen to dwell on the Broadway engagement. What soured me about that experience was that it wasn't the right combi-nation, and had I been more experienced, I would have understood it wasn't right." But she defends a decision about which "I suppose you could say I was foothardy, but I never thought of it like that. Blanche was a part I really loved and thought I could play and bring something to, and I felt that if I was going to do theatre. f wanted to do something meant something to me."

The headlines about movie stars invading Broadway no doubt had their own damaging effect. "I think that worked against all of us. It's and you see a provincial snobbery. based on nothing — that's how I feel about the New York theatre world, they have this pretentious snobbery when, I mean, I can barely sit through most Broadway plays. But they're commercial. It's the same thing with films - they're commercial but they're nothing I can sit through and they make \$150

The bottom line is I think I'm haustible," Lange says. "I never tire just out of the loop. What I like, other people don't like, and what other

people flock to, I find unbearable." **6** I can barely sit through In any case, Lange became a film star more by circumstance than conscious choice, and is quick to fore-Broadway stall any idea that thing to which she

might be seen to be condescending. "It wasn't that, back in acting class in the 1970s, I said to myself, well, I'm going to do movies; I'm not going to do theatre," says the actress, who began her screen career in King Kong's furry paw before establishing her heavyweight credentials in 1982 with back-to-back performances in Tootsie and Frances, the latter of which introduced her to co-Lange says: You kind of get

taken along the path destined for you. I started getting film roles, and it just became more and more that. it was never a decision that I wanted to be a film actor as opposed to a theatre actor; it was just the work that came my way." The problem, of course, is that once launched, screen careers have to be maintained - so that even if you

being sung you

would say they

want to do theatre, that may not be the wish of the numerous business interests that surround you.

The first time I did Blanche, nobody wanted me to do it; the second time," Lange laughs, "no-body really wanted me to do it. But nobody has ever made decisions for me. I've been influenced sometimes against my better judgment to do something I felt strongly I shouldn't do. I let myself get talked into it because of those very reasons - it's commercial, it's money and it has always been a mistake."

She praises the "much healthier attitude to acting in Britain. In America, because of the money involved and because of the machinery of Hollywood, it is really an unhealthy environment for actors, The rewards are actually very destructive because they are so our of proportion to the talent and it is all extremely seductive. If people are going to get \$15 or \$20 million to do some bad part in some bad movie, they're going to take that instead of making a couple of hundred dollars a week rehearsing a play; it has to do with the integrity of the individuals."

Beyond Blanche, Lange cites the Princess in Sweet Bird of Youth and O'Neill's Mary Tyrone as roles she would like to do on stage, though she turned down a chance at Chekhov's Three Sisters, claiming she was too old to play any of them. Theatre work with Shepard remains an unfulfilled hope: "If there were ever a part [for me] in his plays, I would do it, and I would love to be directed by Sam on stage.

"I know the work I did on stage in New York was good, and I also know when I've been lazy. With a part like Blanche, you can only be honest with it I can't create a performance; it either feels true or it doesn't and this is such an emotional part, it has always felt true to me when I've done it.

A Streetcar Named Desire is in preview from tomorrow and opens on December 30 of the Theatre Royal, Haymarket 10171-930 88008

else, Broadway is in terrif-

ic shape. In a single recent week these amounted to a record £8 million. But if you

inspect the figures closely you

find that almost all the money

was made by a dozen or so

mega-musicals, plus the con-

juror David Copperfield, who

somehow magicked an as-tounding ESO0,000 to the Mar-

tin Beck Theatre. Moreover,

nothing much has arrived

since the season's start in

September bar a couple of

British imports (Skylight. Tak-

ing Sides), a disappoining American production of Noël

Coward's Present Laughter,

and a revival of the musical

Well, at least Chicago has qualifies seldom found on the

Great White Way these days:

class, style, wit and a sophisti-

cased scepticism. Kander and

Ebb's musical was upstaged by A Chorus Line when it first

appeared in 1975, and many

crides thought it offputtingly

cynical; but it still managed to



f you judge by the box-office takings, and nothing

Side by asides by Sondheim

THE origin of this 65-minute Sondheim musical is curious. Craig Lucas, an actor in the original chorus of Sweeney Todd, heard that a number of the composer's songs languished in a musical limbo, either because they had been dropped from shows on the bumpy route to Broadway or because they belonged to shows that had never finished

the journey. Lucas, with the late Norman Rene as director, assembled some of these escapees into an order suggesting a story line and east it for a man and a woman, in two New York apartments, asking, in the words of the opening song: What can you do with a Saturday night, if you're

single?"
What you can do, of course, is dream; and in a musical sing your dreams; which is what Clive Carter and Rebecca Front proceed to do, with .

unsung between the numbers as could be counted on a single hand.

Until just towards the end, and then provoked by a song that awkwardly alters the mood, the construction works remarkably well, helped by a staging device familiar from the Ayckbourn ocuvre which shows the two apartments as one. Carter and Front therefore open the same fridge, sit on the same creamy sofa, switch channels on the same television set -- but in different

parts of town. One of Sondheim's notable gifts, possibly unique to him. is an ability to show the thoughts of his characters changing as they sing. They sitate, they contradict what they have just sung. Don't, they imply, take me quite as

Marry Me a Little Bridewell, EC4

and hawing. So there the two of them are,

single on a Saturday night, wishing they were not. Along with her careful smile, Front's evebrows tilt up at the middle, giving her a brave, tough-itout expression. She sings the title song, dropped from Company but now (apparently because of this show) back in that score. She also sings one of the few roaring numbers, Can That Boy Foxtrot!, a rhetorical question depending

for its full effect on the American broadening of the I was being. If all this were not fourth syllable.

Carter also shows physically the emotions of the reluctant solitary - the restlessness, the outbursts of lart wit - and both sing with clarity and charm. When Front reaches the closing phrase of There Won't Be Trumpets she finds a note as pure and faint as a silver trumpet on the very

edge of hearing.
Clive Paget directs on the admirable flexible stage of this theatre and Rowland Lee accompanies on the piano.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Beyond the cringe

1F YOU go to the Cafe Royal for Joey and Gind's Wedding, do not expect a Café Roya wedding. Although invitation prices start at £36.50, the food

We should be watching from

Joey & Gina's Wedding Café Royal

Tuned into our sceptical times

Benedict Nightingale enjoys a fine

Broadway revival of Kander and

Ebb's courtroom musical, Chicago Walter Bobbie's fine producthrough me, walk right by me. tion is a simplicity seldom seen

and never know I'm there". It is as if a post-socialist Brecht were to set The Threepenny Opera in what's nominally the 1920s but, by inference, the 1990s. And the message is unmissable: the law-andorder system is another branch of showbiz

I left the Richard Rodgers Theatre feeling it would make an ideal counter-Christmas show for Sam Mendes's Donmar, and, lo and behold, I returned home to hear rumours that he may indeed stage it there before long. Certainly, a prime strength of

jackets, shorts, bras, whatever, sway and swivel in dances choreographed by Reinking in the manner of the late, great Bob Fosse. Imagine an elegant entertainment from some slick but sleazy corner of Hades. and you have the evening's

sinister glamour. If that's Broadway at its best. Present Laughter at the

on Broadway. Mostly, the stage is filled with a bank of

musicians, principally brass

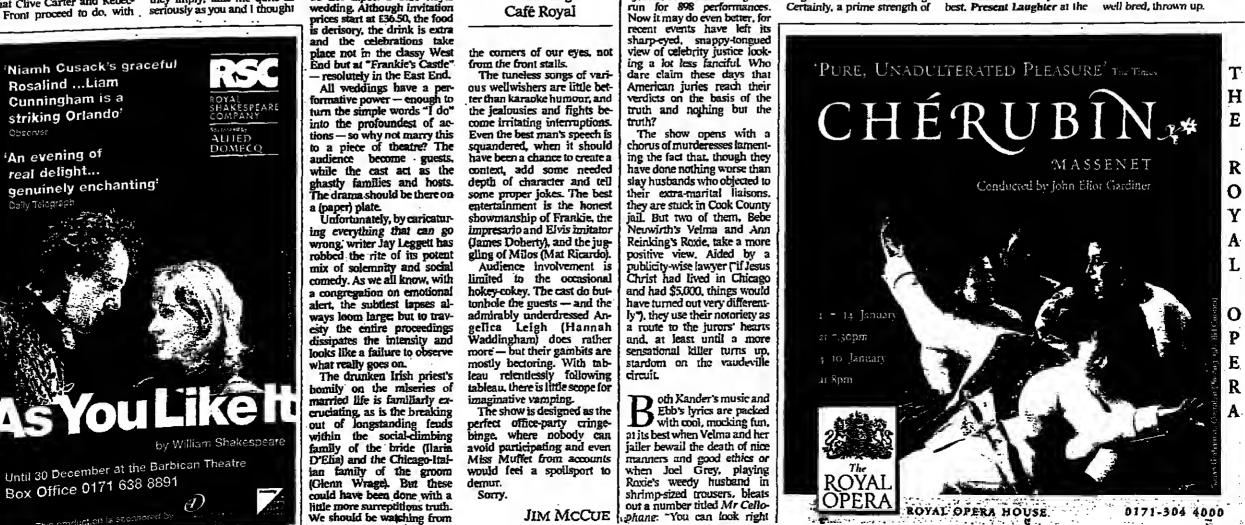
players, leaving a thinnish

shelf on which men and

women in all-black stockings,

Walter Kerr shows it at its overblown worst. Up goes a posh 18th-century frontage to reveal a living room to make the builders of Blenheim feel penny-pinching. It is the home of Noël Coward's Garry Essendine, matinee idol and egomaniac, whose world is in emotional turmoil as he prepares to leave for a tour in what the cast's sometimes suspect Briosh accents insist on rechristening "Efricah". Frank Langella, who plays

him, is a fine, funny actor but. like others in the company, too often opts for the camp, broad gesture and too obviously nudges and rickles the audience and its armpits. And not content with coarsening Coward, the director, the young and fashionable Scott Elliott. brings his sexual subjexts spuriously to the surface. Garry's would-be mistresses strip to their underwear and beyond, while the Angry Young Man who haunts him gives him the full-frontal treatment. The Muster would have winced and, had he been less well bred, thrown up.





VISUAL ART

A new study of Michelangelo is among the new art-history books in the shops this Christmas



■ MUSIC I

Sir Colin Davis conducts the LSO and Chorus in a luminous performance of the Verdi Requiem





MUSIC 2

.. but Lynn Harrell fails to find the heart of Prokofiev's Cello Concerto



OPERA

On video, a chance to relive the prime of Miss Maria Callas and other great singers

CLASSICAL CONCERTS

A choral sound worth dying for

FROM the intensely hushed opening *Gradual*, this Verdi Requiem belonged to the London Symphony Orchestra Chorus. The singers' hoarsely whispered warning in the Dies Irae was chilling: there was gossamer delicacy before playful radiance in the Sanctus, and yearning in their final intimate exchange with the soprano Georgina Lukacs.

It was they, above all, who found the drama in what Būlow dismissed as "Verdi's latest opera". For it is, and should be, dramatic. It is also a work of Christian remembrance: the conundrum remains, and was nowhere more apparent than in the florid Kyrie eleison entries of the four soloists, following an

opening of such subtlety.

There lingers a conflict in the British view of the work. We may now embrace its sensuous, public grandeur. But our choruses do not have the hard, vibrant sound of continentals. Add to this a conductor whose vision of the work is genuinely spiritual. and the concert hall begins to seem an inadequate venue -

LSO/Davis Barbican

one back into the area of virtuosic professionalism. Sir Colin Davis's deeply-felt approach made for a luminous performance. There were moments of true solemnity, particularly in the Lachrymosa. But at times the work

was burdened with a sense of inertia. His speeds tended to be slow: on and off-stage trumpets in the Last Trump lacked impetus.
The tenor Stuart Neil was in fine voice, perhaps a little too

fine for the "groan, as one guilty" required for the Ingemisco. Gudjon Oskarsson was more expressive, particularly in the inspired Mors stupebit. Enkelejda Shkosa delivered her Liber scriptus with a touching directness and Georgina Lukacs soared effortlessly, though they were ill-matched in the Agnus Dei. All four, however, lacked the expressive warmth achieved by the LSO and Chorus.

HELEN WALLACE

Said with flowers

THE tendency to award a houquet without discrimination to every soloist, woman or man, produces interesting reactions. The women carry it off gracefully. Most men, on the other hand, would appar-ently do anything rather than be seen holding flowers as they leave the stage.

After his performance of Prokofiev's Sinfonia Concertante in Bridgewater Hall, Lynn Harrell threw his bouquet high in the air behind him,-where it landed among the back desks of the violas. It was an apt gesture. Remembering his wonderful account of the Dvořák Cello Concerto a couple of years ago, the Manchester audience had every reason to hope that he would give Prokofiev an interpretation that would present it in the best light. Unfortunate-

ly, he threw it away. The first movement is particularly in need of a soloist with the authority and the variety in colour to characterise it rather than merely play through it. Harrell performed some prodigious technical feats. But, in spite of a more purposeful

Halle/Nagano Manchester

projection in the second and third movements and a happy relationship with Kent Nagano and the Halle Orchestra, he shed little light on the structural shapes and on expressive intentions.

The other main item in this concert, designed in part to celebrate the centenary of Salford University, was Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony. Well, there is a celebratory element in the Symphony in F minor but it is usually reserved for the last movement. If the opening fanfare sounds more like an introduction to some kind of pageant than a fate-laden heart-stopper, there is no story.

The Hallé compensated with some lovely playing in the Andantino and the conductor secured a headily propulsive performance of the last movement. But, after that start, it had little real

GERALD LARNER

Treasure for under the tree

Richard Cork

reviews some of the sumptuous visual art books in the shops

this Christmas

The more we discover about the astonishing accomplishments of the Renaissance era, the more difficult it becomes to encompass them in a single book. But The Panorama of the Renaissance (Thames & Hud-son, £29.95) opens up the rich diversity of the period. This sumptu-ously illustrated survey moves defity between diverse themes, dealing with Banking and Eroticism, Fashion and Religion, Philosophy and Women alongside more familiar subjects. Individual Renaissance artists ben-

efit from close exploration as well. Benozzo Gozzofi has long been celebrated for his magical frescoes in the Palazzo Medici in Florence. But the whole of his 60-year career is now examined with the care it deserves. Diane Cole Ahl's scholarly and superbly illustrated book (Yale, £45) is the definitive account, and includes a complete catalogue raisonné. By now, Michelangelo might seem

to have been exhaustively explored. But Paul Joannides has mined a new seam in Michelangelo and his Influence (Lund Humphries, £45). Taking as his focus the excellent collection of the master's drawings at Windsor Castle, Joannides widens it out to include all the drawings in the same collection by other artists indebted to Michelangelo's protean

Georges de La Tour's fame is a 20th-century phenomenon. Before 1934, when a pioneering exhibition was held in Paris, he was unknown to the public. Since then, he has become one of the most popular of all 17th-century painiers. In Georges de La Tour and his World (Yale, £30) Philip Conisbee and other scholars survey everything from his candlelit religious scenes to the sometimes surprising violence of his secular pictures.

Of all the artists who flourished in 17th-century Holland, Jan Steen was the most boisterous. Riotous drinking occurs in many of his works, and his own grinning presence in some scenes proves how much he enjoyed himself. But he was also a consummate painter, and Jan Steen: Painter and Storyteller (Yale, £35) does full justice to his remarkable abilities.

Straddling the neo-classical and romantic eras, Pierre-Paul Prud'hon established his reputation with large mythological paintings. But he drew exquisitely in chalk as



Featuring members of the Medici family, Botticelli's Adoration of the Magi (c 1475), is a highlight of The Panorama of the Renaissance

well, and these studies are the subject of a seductive book by John Elderfield (Abrams, £55). The sensuous female nudes are the most celebrated, but many of these ourstanding drawings have never been published before.

Hooore Daumier's reputation has undergone an even more dramatic revision. Renowned in his own day as 'a savagely effective cartoonist, he is now more admired for his small body of freely handled paintings. Bruce Laughton's lively new book (Yale, £45) looks at the totality of Daumier's

complex actievement.
Froma E. Wissman's Bouguereau (Pomegranate, £22.95) shows just how removed Daumier's paintings were from official French taste of the period. Bouguereau was a darling of the Salon, and the Impressionists despised his enormous commercial

SUCCESS. Van Gogh's failure to sell work mortified him, but now the Amsterdam Museum dedicated to his work has produced the first of an eightvolume catalogue devoted to his drawings alone. Sjraar van Heuten's exemplary survey (Lund Humphries, £50) looks at the early 1880s, when Van Gogh's social conscience led him to make powerful studies of worki men and women.

s for the other Impressionists, they appear alongside Van Gogh in Patty Lurie's delightful Guide to Impres sionist Paris (Lilburne Press, £14.95). Lurie has done her best to pin down exactly when Monet. Degas and their friends painted images of the city. Each work is reproduced alongside a photograph of the same scene today. Innovatory architecture from the Crystal Palace to John Pawson's minimalist London house of the 1990s is surveyed in Richard

Weston's concise Modernism (Phaidon, £45). Le Corbusier dominates much of the discussion, but Weston ensures that architectural experiments by artists such as Malevich are discussed as well. Malevich himself is the subject of an intriguing re-examination by John Miliner (Yale, £40). Long venerated as pioneer of abstract painting, Malevich is here revealed as a man in thrall to mathematical theory.

The inescapable Picasso is represented by two books on unfamiliar aspects of his work. Susan Grace Galassi's penetrating study of Picas-so's Variations on the Masters (Abrams, £30) shows just how much this arch-revolutionary was con-scious of tradition. Picasso's rivalrous fascination with Manet, Delacroix and above all Velázquez is charted here in absorbing detail. while Jonathan Brown has edited an equally stimulating book placing

Picasso squarely within the Spanish tradition alone (Yale, £30). Two major British artists are also explored in new ways. Ann Garrould has ably edited the first volume of Henry Moore: Complete Drawings (Lund Humphries, £75). Taking the period 1916-29, she shows how rapidly Moore's draughtsmanship lie ered as he moved from obscurity to acclaim. As for Francis Bacon, his obsessive interest in portraiture is celebrated by Milan Kundera in a powerfully illustrated study (Thames

& Hudson, £45). Finally, the extraordinary strength and vitality of contemporary British art is reflected in two welcome books by Germano Celant. His introductory essays on Tony Cragg and Anish Kapoor (Thames & Hudson, £38 and £29.95 respectively) look at two outstanding sculptors, splendidly illustrated with key examples of the work that has brought them renown.

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Thrilling across the decades

■ THE ART OF SINGING: Golden Voices of the Century Warner 0630-15898-3 A TREASURE chest of film

clips, most of them rare, featuring many of the finest opera singers of the century. When the talkies arrived, tenors such as Schipa and Martinelli were wheeled into the studios and dressed in costume while the cameras rolled for one-reelers. Then Hollywood took over. Rosa Ponselle is seen auditioning for a screen Carmen that never happened. Pity. But Lawrence Tibbett and Lauritz Melchior had spots in now forgotten films: the former sang the Toreador Song in Metropolitan and the latter Winterstürme in Luxury Liner.

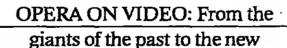
After that came television, with programmes putting on the stars of the Met in celebrity spots. So we have Björling and Tebaldi in the close of Boheme Act I and Leontyne Price, at her peak, singing O patria mia. Even the talking heads, led by Thomas Hampson and Magda Olivero, have words of wisdom. Essential viewing.

BERG

Lulu Schäfer/Harries/Kuebler/ Bailey/Schöne/LPO/ Davis Warner 0630 15533-3 (subritled)

GRAHAM VICK'S Glyndebourne production this summer was a little short of his excellent best. Part of the blame has to be placed at the foot of his designer, Paul Brown, who normally serves him well. The over-clean brick wall of the set did little to summon up the exceedingly dirty world of Wedekind's play and Berg's opera.

Christine Schäfer in the title role did her very best to overcome this with her expression of knowing innocence, half schoolgirl and half slut. playing of the LPO under The Art of Singing. These two



productions they're all talking about



Rare treat Maria Callas in La traviata (1958), just at the time that her voice was reaching the peak of its power

MARIA CALLAS IN

EMI 7243 4 91711 3 8

and 1962

CONCERT: Hamburg 1959

THERE is sadly little of Callas

on film. A dimly shot extract of

her Lisbon Traviata is one of

Her soprano had no difficulty Andrew Davis is beyond with the exceptional demands of this role and alongside her were some telling performances, led by Norman Bailey's smelly Schigolch and

Wolfgang Schöne as husband number two. Humphrey Burton, an old hand at Glyndebourne, films with admirable clarity and the the few disappointments in not always happy. But the presence remained, impas-sioned and totally dedicated. ■ VERDI Don Carlos Mattila/Meier/Alagna/ Hampson/Van Dam/ Orchestre de Paris/Pappano

recitals, filmed by German television, help a little, al-though on both occasions she

restricted herself to a mere

handful of arias, albeit de-

manding ones. In 1959 she

was not too far short of her full

powers, at least in Verdi: Elisabeth's Tu che la vanità

from Don Carlo and Lady

Three years later the voice

was in steep decline and not

much of the career was left.

Callas was tinkering with the mezzo repertory: Elisabeth had been switched to Eboli's

O don fatale. The results were

Macbeth's letter scene.

Warner 0630 16318-3 (subtitled)
LUC BONDY'S production, in its original version at the Chatelet in Paris last spring, successfuly transfers to the small screen. The filming is a bit dark in places, but closeups ensure that the performances are given full effect.

Bondy turned his singers — and, with the exception of Waltraud Meier's Eboli, they could scarcely have been bettered - into class actors able to play in ensemble. Roberto Alagna's Carlos, an innocent lost in a complex world, and Thomas Hampson's zealot of a Rodrigo are marvellously balanced, their relaconship during the death scene being more than mere friendship. Jose van Dam and Karita Mattila are Philip and Elisabeth, the royal exiles from all human warmth, and Antonio Pappano is the out-

standing conductor. JOHN HIGGINS

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

SAM ELLIOTT

Age 18

Talent: Elliott is an outstanding tuba player. He reached the brass final of the BBC Young Musician of the Year Competition in 1994 and again this year, playing an avant-garde sonata by Leonard Salzedo. He is one of only three tuba students at the Royal Academy of Music.

Why the tuba? Fate took a hand at Elphinstone Junior School, Hastings. "At the age of ten, I wanted to change from tenor horn to euphonium, which I'd seen another boy playing. But I. called a tuba and mistakenly asked for tuba lessons. It was



Tecthing troubles: "The first tuba I learnt on was so old the mouth pipe was held together with Sellotape. Initially, the sheer size of the instrument was also a problem."

Breakthrough: After winning a government scholarship to Wells Cathedral School, he came under the tuition of trombonist Alan Hutt. "He is a brilliant teacher, who did wonders for my playing. It just boomed." At 14. Elliott made his debut as a soloist, in Oxford, and from 16 was certain that he wanted a musical career.

Stereotyping: "I really dislike the mocking image of the tuba as an instrument that only produces a comical noise. I would compare it to the French horn: the sound won't hit you between the eyes, but it can have a lovely, lyrical quality."

Sound barrier: Apart from well-known concertos by Vaughan Williams and Edward Gregson (Elliott is playing the latter at the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury, on January 18), the tuba repertoire is so small that his chances of making a living purely as a soloist are virtually non-existent. "I've been seeking out all the composers who teach at the Academy, and saying to them: 'Please write something for the

Satisfaction: "I get an absolutely wonderful feeling at the end of a concert when I know I've made an audience enjoy and appreciate the tuba. That's when the hard work really means

DANIEL ROSENTHAL

's battle iflation,



■ POP

The Pretenders' excursion to church can only be counted as a modified blessing



JAZZ

The life and music of Billie Holiday are recalled, perhaps too sweetly, in Lady Sings the Blues

THE

and reduction the environment of the control of the engineering of the



■ CHOICE 1

William Christie brings Rameau's Les Fétes d'Hébé to London

VENUE: Tonight at



■ CHOICE 2

Bristol's American season opens with Arthur Miller's The Last Yankee VENUE: First night tonight at the Old Vic

POP AND JAZZ: Chrissie Hynde fails to convince; Tracey's birthday; remembering Lady Day

Pretender, or faking?

The year has started late for the Pretenders. Chrissie Hynde reconvened her durable band of rockers at the end of last week in two fundraisers for Capital Radio's Share a Capital Christmas appeal. They were the group's first concerts of 1996, ending a year-long hibernation after their live album, Isle of View.

The shows repeated recipe used for The Pretenders that record, augmenting the group with

the Duke Quarter, who again added strings to rearranged, acoustically inclined selections from the Pretenders' song-book. And, on the face of it, what better setting for such a seasonal gathering than this hallowed Islington location. especially as it is just down the

road from the Angel? Yet previous visits to Union Chapel have shown it to be a sympathetic venue in theory only. Chrissie & Co looked a picture, decorously arranged around the pulpit with acoustic guitars and violins to the fore. But the sound from this "stage" always seems to echo away coldly towards the stee-ple, while the audience sits on

nipping at the extremities.
The band's rewriting of its back pages in this recital setting was only partially suc-cessful. Some of the Pretend-

ers loud and proud rock landmarks simply will not politely allow their gutsy electric guitar parts to be trans-planted with sedate strings. In her mid-forties. Hynde remains the epitome of mature rock rebellion,

Union Chapel, N1 ward focal point for such demure endeavours. Back on the Chain Gang and Brass in Pocket were among those that just did not want to sit still for their wash and brush up.

and an awk-

But there has always been a sentimental heart beneath Hynde's rock 'n' roll swagger and the lights on the tree really shone on the more romantic pieces such as Kid, the seasonal 2000 Miles and a welcome revival of Birds of Paradise from the 1981 Pretenders II album. Chrissie then sent us on our way with a rendition of Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas: even more of a softy than we thought.

PAUL SEXTON

soloing style. In both this and the

following quartet pieces, which initial-

ly featured trumpeter Gerard Presencer and tenor player Bobby

Wellins, Tracey confirmed his reput-

ation as a world-class improviser,

cutting unpredictable paths through

the tunes' changes which turned out to

The octet and septet segments of the

evening inevitably shifted the spotlight

to Tracey the composer, but the playing of regular collaborators such

as saxophonists Don Weller and Peter

King as well as the younger generation

(represented by saxophonists Andy

Panayi. Mornington Lockett and Ju-

lian Arguelles) ensured that no mo-

In the concluding big-band section,

youthful prowess was heavily and

tellingly featured, ending the concert

with not only an overt tribute to

Tracey's peerless compositional skills,

but also an implied one to his influence

on the entire British jazz scene.

mentum was lost.

be by far the most scenic routes.



Big softy: time seems to have mellowed Chrissie Hynde, but eviscerated her music

Free score years and ten

Stan Tracey. Queen Elizabeth Hall

IN 1973, the Park Lane Group presented the first jazz concert at the Queen. Elizabeth Hall, featuring Stan Tracey, so it was fitting that the same organisation should present the same concert to mark his seventieth birthday. Such occasions can all too easily turn into schmaltzy schlock; fortunately. Tracey is incapable of producing anything but the hard-edged, inventive jazz he has been composing and playing since 1944.

Like the senior of his two main influences, Duke Ellington (the other being Theionious Monk), Tracey the composer also "plays" his various bands, from duos and trios right up to 5-piece orchestras. The concert showcased these various bands in logical sequence, beginning with Tracey plus rhythm section (drummer son Clark and bassist Andy Cleyndert), and culminating in a rousing selection

from The Genesis Suite with full Home for The opening trio selection was an original blues, Panama Red, a typicalthe Holiday ly quirky, percussive Tracey tune that enabled him to get into his stride immediately with his familiar chunky

PRESENTING a show built around the songs of Billie Holiday is a daunting prospect for any singer, but Val Wiseman has successfully toured her package for almost nine years. During that time there have been slight changes to the band and the routines, and her appearance on home turf at Ronnie Scott's marked just such a moment of renewal. Several new songs have been added, many rescued from Holiday's lesser-known recordings and Alan Barnes has recently joined the backing band on tenor sax

Compered and led by the unflappable Digby Fairweather on cornet, the show offers a relaxed tour through Holiday's career, even if it is long on sentiment and short on heartache. Few singers can encapsulate the pain and anguish of Holiday's last years, but Wiseman was nevertheless at her best when tackling the measured ballads of

the 1950s, notably You Are Mine and Lover Man, with Barnes taking the tenor solo.

In these songs, the lyrics gave fared better on the 1950s material.

The 1930s songs raised the question

ALYN SHIPTON

LONDON TODAY'S CHOICE A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Richard

Biros stars as Eberiezer Scrooge in the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith's, production of Neil Berliott's vivid production of Neil Bention's ward adaptation of Octomo's seasonal tale With Angela Corlun Sophie Dusei, Phyticia Hancock and Dele Rapiey Lyric King Street, Landon W6 (0181-74) 2311). Opens tonget, 7pm. Then 7-30pm most exercings until Dec 26, when Main-Saf (except Jan 1), 730pm. For mats 2, 5 lighter, content the host. For mats (2 30pm) contact the box

LES ARTS FLORESSANTS: Wilker Christie conducts the Pans-baced ensemble at a rate concern evice-tible in a late concern performance of Rameau's elegoni opera-ballot, Les Fétes d'Hébe, as port of the Bartscan's International Chamber Orcheston Series Barthican, Sak Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891), Tonight, 7 30pm. THE WHITE DEVIL Gale Edwards's thrilingly erone and wolent production webster, up from Strafford, with Jane Gumet, Ray Fearon, Richard McCabe

and good performances right along the

Pit, Barblean, EC2 (D181-538 8891) Proviews begin tonight, 7 15pm, Then tomorrow-Sat, 7 15pm, Opens January 7, 7pm, In rep.

ELSEWHERE ALDEBURGH. The Aldeburgh Cinema presents a unique collection of nativity

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THEATRE GUIDE

and net storn in a exception in interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-whee camas. Methow Wardhus directs Wyndhately, Channg Cross Rd, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Tue-Sat. 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun. 5pm. House full, returns only
Some seats available
Seats at all prices

DREADTY AND THE BEAST. The Christmas shows at this thestre are among the very best in the country. Leutence Boswel directs this year's, wiresponettes and automata stalling the flooring the th Beast's palace Young Vio, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6963) Vanous Imes, 10 30am, 1 30pm, 2.30pm, 7pm, Uniti February 1. DICK DAREDEVIL, Acum hero of

N BY JEEVES. Deligitatul musical IN BY JEEVES, Delightur misical creamon by Alan Aycidoum and Andrew Lloyd Webber, based on the Woderbouse hences, now revised Lyrlic, Shallesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mots Wed and Sat, 3pm. 637 8270). Tue-Sun, 7,30pm CASH ON DELIVERY Bradley

Walsh in largeal pams about benefit insur. Written by Michael Gooney and directed by his dad, Rav Whitehell, Whatehil, SW1 (0171-369 1735) Mon-Fri, Bpm; Sat, 5 30pm and 8 30pm, mat Wed, 3pm. ☐ THE CHERRY ORCHARD: Tremendous RSC cast, headed by Penelope Witon, Alea McCowen and David Troughton, in a production by Adman Noble considered the best in

boosted by Denn's Hopper's performance as a feacher in the Midwest, carned away by pession. Wife Amy Inning and Amy Locane Westner (0171-437-4343)

acks soots off the dogs in the live Inacks spote of the dogs in the Pro-action 646cm of the carroon classe. With Jeff Daniels and Jeely Richardson Berblican (2) (0771-638 8691) Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) Odeonst Kenstington (01426 914866) Laicester Square (01426-918 823) Swing Cottage (01426 914098) Bio (0171-254 6677) Bitzy (0717-737 2121) Screen/Balter Street (0171-935 2772) UCI Whiteleys (2) (1990 888990) Virgins: Cheteon (0171-325 5006) Sultum Road (0171-325 5006) STEAL BIG, STEAL LITTLE (12) Ham-fisted comic lable about lwin Warner (0171-437 4343) TWO MUCH (PG): Antonio Banderes invents a twin brother, 50 he can woo both Melanie Griffith and Daryl Hormah Virgin Trocedero (0171-434 0031) Fullnam Road (0171-370 2636)

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(§) (0590 88899) Ritzy (0171-737
2121) Screen/Green (0171-225 3520) Haen. Duector, Hugh Wilso Emptre 🐼 10990 888990) C

GABBEH: Iranson film about nomadic

A delly guide to erts and entertainment compiled by Gillton Maxey

scenes from more than 30 counties and traditions coloring by firms purposes and trooping the post 15 years. All proceeds to Save the Chaldron Fung Aldeburgh Chairm Gastery, High Street p01728 45(296); Today Fill, 10cm, 3pm, Sat and Sun 10cm, 3pm, 3cm until pocembar 12.

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and Sat, 2:30pm file perit Lean 24 and
25 Unit January 18

Ship Sensitives for Charles in the English of the English of the English of Charles of the English of the Bucking from the Franch purpey with the Franch purpey. Wing-Davoy Rose, Chester Road North (01562 743745) Tonight and tomorrow.

7 (Kpm) New in **London**, National (CCA85190) (C171-960 4242), Jan 3-11. SOUTHAMPTON: The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, under the composer from Goodwar, performs a programme of limit and Christinia; million Guildhall Case Composition (1976) Guidhall Cars Centre (01703 632601; Tongtt, 7 30pm

STRATFORD Adulan Nobio breds Joanne Pearce and Popert Gloricity gailty of an much, in Little Eyoff, the Incress of libeart's late plays to make its container. Swam Marenado (01789 256623) Opena torugal, 7pm in iop with Henry Uni &

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[2] NINE: The Arthur Kopit/Moury
Yeston musicul based on Fellin's 8 =.
Lary Lamb plays the great director;
among the women who bewilder him are
Clare Burt, Eleanor David, Ria Jones,
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Wiseman the chance to extract more meaning - after all, plenty of Holiday's 1930s discs were unmemorable frothy songs save for the edge in her voice and the stellar accompanists Teddy Wilson recruited to back her. Wiseman's band is, in British terms, every bit as stellar as many of Wilson's little groups, but it, like Wiseman,

of authenticity. Just how closely should such a show emulate the style of the period? Each member of the band solved the problem differently and the most satisfying solo playing came from trombonist Roy Williams, confident enough to be himself in all surround ings and turning in a succession of ever more accomplished vignettes. His unaccompanied choruses and duos with guitarist Jim Douglas were as brilliant as in both men's heyday with Alex Weish a quarter of a century ago.

It was a shame that Barnes was not allowed the occasional outing on alto, and Williams and Douglas apart on the older material, the others seemed reluctant to be themselves.

CINEMA GUIDE

films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release scross the country

brothers (Andy Garcia) disputing an inhentance, With Alan Arkin and Rachel Ticolm Orector, Andrew Davis.

THE FIRST WIVES CLUB (PG) Broad cornedy about vengelul Manhattan wives, with Jucy parts for Diane Keaton, Bette Midler and Goldin Kensington (01426 \$14666) Swiss Cottage (01426 \$14666) Swiss Cottage (01426 \$14666) Screen(Balser Street (0171-935 2772)
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Augressively American Christmas Comedy, with Amold Schwarteneager as a taid in search of a press about no Director, Brust Levani Odenos Kenselagion (01426 914666) Merchanis & Orlice of 65893 Sealer Cottage (01426 \$14098) Plaza (5) (0990 888990) UCI Whiteleys (2) (0990 888990) Virgina: Chelsee (0171-352 \$096 Trocadero (0171-434 0031)

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المكالم نعوال

Fancy a dream house for Christmas? Rachel Kelly, Amanda Loose and Rossella Lorenzi spot some fine buys at home and abroad

An ideal home for the 1990s

'Friends

envy us

and quite

a few want

to move

here, too'

reflect on how our homes fit our lifestyles - and almost half of us would up sticks to the country if we could

A new Abbey National survey found that 40 per cent of us dream of buying a country house or a thatched cottage. with only 24 per cent wishing to stay in town.

Herewith The Times's guide to the nation's most desirable homes. Some are conducive to festive cheer and mulled wine, houses, as Country Life put it recently, redolent of Washington Irving, Pickwick and plum pudding.

But not all are holly-hedecked. with fireplaces that demand the roasting of chestnuts. We have also included some stylish city pads, too, for those of us who remain resolute urbanites.

They might even prove the most extravagant Christmas gifts,

but be minded of one Danish tycoon who bought a Highland estate on a romanoc whim for his wife, unseen by her. It went back on the market a week later because she disliked the rain.

They are the houses that agents have chosen to be most in keeping with the desires of buyers in the 1990s. The savvy may deliberately buck the trends: buy a very different set of bricks and mortar, and bargains are there for the taking.

But for those tired of talk of dream homes in a market tarred by scarcity, take cheer from the story of Times readers Fran and Julian Edwards. Frustrated by months of

The Christmas holiday fruitless searching, they even-tually fell for a Georgian house in a Somerset village. "As soon as we saw it, we

knew it was the house for us," recalls Mrs Edwards. "A detatched Grade [I listed Georgian house with beautiful sash windows, and a large south-facing garden. It was unlike modern houses, and the classic sym metry of the square rooms had not been spoilt by modernisation. In a way, it was a blank canvas - beautiful and

elegant - and with potential. But it wasn't up for sale. Undeterred, the Edwards rang and put in an offer. It was the culmination of a three-year attempt to leave

suburbia.

"We wanted to slow down and move to a period house in the country. We had a huge mortgage on our house in Wallington, Surrey, so we were both working to pay it off all the time. And we hated the noise, dirt and traffic," says Mrs Edwards,

"Moreover, our Surrey house was newly built and we were uncomfortable. We wanted space and just didn't feel we fitted into it.

"We were searching for a period four-bedroom house with plenty of land. We had just started a new business and our daughter Kate was just about to start her GCSEs, so it seemed like an ideal time

It took 18 months to sell the Surrey house in August 1995. But they could find nothing to buy, so rented a house in Wells, Somerset, while they continued their search. As weeks turned to months, they began to despair.



Julian and Fran Edwards with daughter Kate in their listed Georgian home

"We started by looking in a ten-mile radius of Wells because Kate did not want to live in the back of beyond," says Mrs Edwards. "We were on all the agents' lists, but we couldn't find anything we

There was so much interest in country houses. Most of the competition was from other people wanting to move from London, Eventually, we began to look at almost anything." But last January, the couple spied Lodge Hill House, while driving through Westburysub-Mendip, four miles from

"Although it wasn't for sale,

we noticed that two houses were being boilt in its grounds, so we introduced ourselves, saying we were interested in them. Eventually, we said to the owner that his house was very nice, and he told us to make him an offer. He was thinking of moving later in the year, so we just speeded things up," says Mrs Edwards.

After two valuations, they put in an offer for £235,000, just over the odds for a quick sale. But the owner wanted £250,000 and did not want to move until the end of the summer. So they kept looking, but couldn't find anyupert Bradstock of the buying agency Properby Vision, best dethe country idyll of buyers on his firm's veryone's dream is a recorgian house, the edge of a vably in an area ing beauty, in partyside use in a survived, as has the remaining the country in the remaining remaining the country in the remaining remaining the remaining remaining the remaining
scribes the country idyll of would-be buyers on his firm's books: "Everyone's dream is a classical or Georgian house, situated on the edge of a village, preferably in an area of outstanding beauty, in unspoilt countryside where they are protected from future building developments and

within easy reach of London." East Dean Manor in Hampshire, could be the an-swer. The £750,000, 18th-century, Grade fl* listed Queen Anne house is nine miles from Salisbury. With six bedrooms and six acres of land, a separate flat, indoor swimming pool and sauna, as well as woodland and paddock, there are 120 yards of double and single-bank fishing on the River Dun, which flows through the grounds.
The £235,000 Butter Street

Cottage, on the edge of the village of Nonnington in Kent, is voted the ideal weekend retreat by Conrad Payne, of Cluttons. The Grade II listed thatched and timberframed cottage, dates back to the 16th century, has a swimming pool, is surrounded by farmland and has a paddock

near by. Mr Payne says: "Three out of every five new applicants who register with us are looking for a country bolthole for weekends. With two original inglenook fireplaces and beams, and including three reception rooms, four to five bedrooms, a kitchen/breakfast room and playroom, the Butter Street cottage is very

For those who yearn to be north of the border in time for a Hogmanay Highland fling, then the £425,000 Monkton House near Edinburgh sounds ideal. For sale for the first time on the open market, this fortified laird's house, dating from the 14th century, was built as a safe house by the monks of Newbattle Abbey.

This will be our first Christby Cromwell because it was not considered a military RACHEL KELLY

The perfect London bache lor flat is arguably one in Stanhope Gardens, Kensington. LCR Developments is converting the north and west sides of this private garden square — which has been owned by the Petersham family for more than two centuries - into flats and a fuxury botel.

Charlesworth House, the developers have designed 65 modern flats with high

Dorene Yn Tok, of LCR Developments, says: "The flats are ideal as a homes or bases in London for young people who have busy lifestyles. The development provides new and low-maintenance flats behind the period facade. And there is underground parking and

house has everything, includ-ing a gym, steam room, outdoor swimming pool and carriage drive. David Forbes, of Chester-

rare to find a wide, doublefronted detached family house, and when they come on the market, they are highly sought after.
The house has been com-

pletely rebuilt, behind the period façade, and it provides practical space combined with outstanding design."

■ East Dean Manor, John D. Wood (01962 863131).

 Butter Street Cottage Cluttons (01237 457441). Monkton House, Knight Frank (0131-225 8171).

● Two-bedroom flats in Charles-worth House from LCR Develop-ments (0171-244 9889). ● 81 Addison Road, with a 69-year lease, Chesterfield (0171-581 5234).

AMANDA LOOSE



The dream home for £5 million: 81 Addison Road

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or a truly spiritual Christ-mas, what about buying an ftalian church? The British have already turned "Chiantishire" into a Home County: now there is the prospect of chintz cur-

tains adorning Tuscan churches. The Curia of Siena, unable to continue looking after all its properties, last month took the unusual step of offering five rural churches in the Chianti region at bargain prices. The sale includes valuable Romanesque buildings, complete with bell towers, rectories and gardens. Church estates and other buildings are also on the market.

thing that they liked as much.
"Towards the end of the

summer, we heard that the

owner was putting Lodge Hill

House on the open market. We felt we simply couldn't risk

someone else buying it, so we

put an offer for £250,000 on

the table, at the beginning of

August. Cluttons handled the

sale, and we moved in on August 30. Our friends really

envy us and quite a few want

to move down here, too," says

mas in what for us is a dream

Mrs Edwards.

Gaetano Bonicelli, the Archbishop of Siena, says: "These churches are a burden on the diocese. They used to serve congregations of at least 300. Now, only two or three families live there. If we do not sell them, they will be ruins. ft is time to look to the future. With the proceeds, we will build new churches in more populated areas." The buyer is bound by restrictive

covenants and architectural restraints to avoid upsetting restorations and inappropriate use; this is not for the faint-hearted. Potendal owners must first apply to view the churches. As the parties come to an agreement, the sale needs to be approved by the Fine Arts Superintendent, who can take about six months to decide whether to let the sale go ahead. If, to safeguard historic interests, the superintendent forbids the transaction, the case passes to Rome where it can take up

to three years to resolve. The buyers pay a reasonable sum in advance; any settlement is made after the superintendent or the ministry in Rome has authorised the sale.

The properties are worth the trouble. In Sovignano, a charming village half-way between Montalcino and Siena, where the rolling hills of Chiano merge into the wild, tawny landscape of southern Tuscany, the tiny church of Santo Stefano is for sale at about £165,000. Surrounded by a large garden, it comes with a well-kept 290sq m rectory on two floors.

About £220,000 will buy the church of San Jacopo in Cortennano, a 13th-century village overlooking San Gimignano's stunning skyline of towers. The price

Blessed are the church buyers



For sale at £200,000: San Michele, Castiglion del Bosco

includes a 12-room rectory and a large garden surrounded by cypresses.

A few kilometres south of Cortennano, much of San Donato village is for sale. The tiny church and the 300sq m rectory will £200,000; a 60sq m stone cottage E60,000 and a 210sq m house £180,000. For £145,000, you can buy the church of Santa Maria in Torre a Castello, near Castellouovo Berardenga, and the 180sq m rectory on

two floors. Prices in Chianti have risen so sharply that even the most decrepit barn can cost a fortune. New construction is banned, so the market rarely offers anything other than expensive ruins.

Given the number of people who flock to peep through the windows of the churches on sale, owning one seems a real

status symbol. Silvia Terlindi, a housewife from Florence, says: "I have always dreamt of living in Chianti, but it was impossible because of the prices. I can hardly believe that my family may have the chance to live in a house that is already blessed."

Buying a church is not easy. The Curia of Siena has been overwhelmed by applications - more than 300 in less than a month. Priority will be given not to the highest bidder, but to the kind of plans the potential owner has.

The archbishop confides: "We know that these churches may give architects great scope for innovation, but we intend to privilege those who will restore them without making any conversion. After all, the adjoining rectorics offered with the churches can still make homes of character."

No decision has been taken oo the church of San Michele in - . Castiglion del Bosco, a neat village north of Montalcino, which is for sale at about £200,000, although talks are under way. Artistically, the tiny chorch is the most interesting on the market because it features the frescoes of the Annunciation by Pietro Lorenzetti, the artist who, with Giotto, Cima-bue and Simone Martini, painted the frescoes of the Basilica of St Francis in Assisi. Giuseppe Buono, manager of the Castiglion del Bosco wine estate, says: "We are very interested in the church and the rectory. If we buy it we will give visi-

tors the opportunity to see the frescoes."

The Curia has just put San Fedele, an empty and isolated hamlet near Radda in Chiand, oo the market for about £800,000. The hamlet, in need of much restoration, includes eight houses, a chapel and Romanesque church.

San Fedele is the sort of village that makes the English want to leave their country," the archbishop says.

● Application for the churches should be sent to Don Tito Rovai, Ufficio Nuove Chiese, Via Liguria 6 (Vico Alto), 53100-Siena; fax 0039577-53562. Further details: Giuseppe Pin, vel. 0039577-270589. For San Fedele, contact Brian A. French on 0171-735 8244 or fax 0171-735 8248

Rossella Lorenzi

An inspirational Christmas

PUBLISHERS have outdone themselves this Christmas with books for decorators.

The big names of interior design are out in force. Nina Campbell, the queen bee of traditional decoration, has published Nina Campbell on Decorating (Conran Octopus, E25), and Tricia Guild, of the Designers Guild, has written Tricia Guild in Town: Contemporary Design for Urban Living (Quadrille, E25). Along with Emma-Louise O'Reilly's The Perfect Country Room (Conran Octopus, £20), these books are for interiors junkies although too big for any but the most enormous stockings. Both Ms Campbell and Ms

Guild's flamboyant urban home contrasts with the classic English style of Ms Campbell's country house interiors. Both offer advice to imitators. Ms Guild suggests paint-ing walls while the plaster is still wet for a mottled look; Ms

Campbell recommends read-

beading or needlework. Personal possessions need frequent and ruthless sortingout, says Ms Campbell "Motley collections can so easily take over. Before I start Guild take us round their very different London homes. Ms to hang pictures or place objects, I lay everything in front of me, then get rid of what is superfluous."

Ms O'Reilly advises on how to combine the spare contemporary look and the tradition-

al with less clutter. For the hands-on decorator,

ers customise cushions with try Pamela Innes's Furniture, and Backgrounds and Borders (Aurum Press, £12.95), or Jocasta funes's Trade Secrets: Classic and Contemporary Surfaces and Finishes (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £19.99).

The aged look is de riguem The more distressed walls look, the better. From marbling, to creating frescoes in your bathroom, to "crackle glazing" a tray, these books

AMANDALLOOSI

lage in Lack of seasonal strives for unity

By Richard Evans, racing correspondent

AN UNEASY stand-off --truce would be over-egging it between those who run racing and others who think they could do the job better emerged yesterday at the equivalent of the sport's annual general meeting in London.

Christmas is only a week away but there was precious little goodwill in the air as representatives of the industry's diverse factions gathered for the British Horseracing Board (BHB) industry committee forum at the Royal Geographical Society.

However, the inquest into racing's ills, notably the failto obtain a cut in betting usey from the recent Budget, did not provoke the bloodbath. or demands for resignations which some had feared.

in the end, there was one undignified spat, between Lord Wakeham, the BHB chairman, and Peter Savill, the outspoken member of the Racehorse Owners' Association council (ROA) and fiercest critic of the BHB leadership. There was also some surprisingly ineffectual questioning from a phalanx of vners' representatives which gely missed its target.

For its part, the BHB leadership promised an all-embracng review to examine the key ssues - particularly financial facing the sport; unveiled the first moves towards a financial plan for racing and isisted racing must speak

ith one voice. However, aithough Lord /akeham and Tristram icketts, chief executive of the BHB, emerged relatively un-

scathed from the two-hour meeting, the silent majority within racing left far from convinced. A complaint about "lack of leadership," raised by Lady Burnham, president of the ROA, during the question and answer session, found an echo afterwards with several

Not surprisingly, given the uproar which followed last month's Budget disappoint-ment, the BHB leadership was well prepared for its critics yesterday and set a trap which their opponents walked into

obligingly. Wakeham, and then Matthew McCloy, chairman of the industry committee, went out of their way to stress the BHB's democratic nature and how the Budget submission had the agreement of all. racing's organisations. "Individuals with personal views must win their arguments before their own councils."

McCloy said pointedly.
So when Peter Savill, Sir Eric Parker and Jim Furlong. the ROA council members who have been most critical of Wakeham and Ricketts, let rip. Wakeham was able to point out how their association had been party to the BHB

Wakeham went further, and may wish he had not. With Savill clearly in mind, he said: that disproportionate damage is done to racing's case by a small minority of publicity-seeking individuals who, although having no influence, consistently seek to undermine the board's authority."

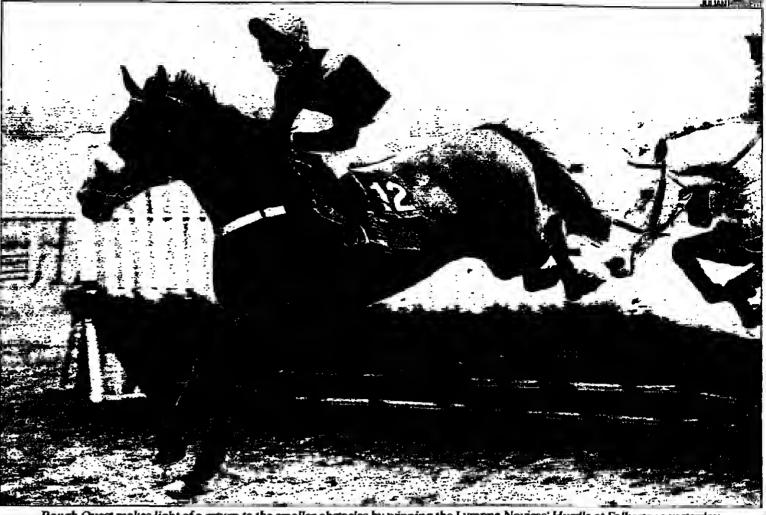
When Savill said the BHB

seemed to be acting as a rubber stamp to the industry committee, in the same way the Queen rubber stamped the work of the House of Commons, Wakeham retorted: "I fear residence in the Cayman Islands has dented whatever constitutional knowledge you had at one time."

The sideswipe at Savill living in the Cayman Islands, where he is a tax exile, was repeated when Savill tried to interrupt Wakeham, "Now, come on, just sit yourself down and listen to me answer the question," the BHB chairman said. "You've had your say, now quietly sit down and when I have finished you can ask another question. That is the democratic way in this country; it may not be where you come from."

The exchange is unlikely to heal wounds and help prompt the unity within racing which the BHB chairman stressed was crucial if the sport is to achieve its aims. What is unclear is how representative the views of Savill and his colleagues are among owners and within racing at large. The ROA delegation certainly appeared rather isolated yesterday; almost a voice in the

vilderness. However, with four members of the BHB - Peter Jones. Sir Paul Fox, Lord Swaythling and Lord Zetland - due to stand down next June, it could pave the way for a shake-up in the board's membership, with Savil being tipped as a replacement for Jones, one of the present owners' representatives. What odds unity then?



Rough Quest makes light of a return to the smaller obstacles by winning the Lympne Novices' Hurdle at Folkestone yesterday

Rough Quest makes smooth return

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

ROUGH QUEST is the best advertisement the Grand National could wish for. It smacked of pathos to see him cootest the Lympne Novices' Hurdle at Folkestone yesterday, but the ten-year-old radiated class as he strode to a resounding victory.

Over a trip two miles shorter than his Aintree triumph. Rough Quest produced a performance beyond the range of the majority of Grand National winners. A combination of minor injuries, fast ground and recent ahandonments has frustrated his trainer. Terry Casey, who anxlously sought an opportunity before the King George VI Chase on Boxing

Day. This contest was far from ideal but the horse took it in his stride, in the process serving notice that One Man will have to be at his very best in the Kempton feature. Ladbrokes responded by trimming Rough Quest to 5-1, from a point longer.

A marvellous cameo developed on the long run round to the final flight as Mick Fitzgerald, who sat motionless aboard Rough Quest, stalked Destin D'Estruval, the mount of David Bridgwater. It prompted uncomfortable memories for Bridgwater, who performed a similar chore on the Martin Pipe-trained Encore Un Peu, the runner-up at Aintree. Now, as then, the two jockeys exchanged words."I won't repeat David's exact comments," Fitzgerald later related, "but he said. 'That's the second time you've done it to me on the same horse"."

It is a long way from Becher's Brook to this run-of-the-mill venue. No racecourse distils the brave quite like Aintree, but Rough Quest must have sensed the unexpected from the paddock antics of his unraced opponents. As Pett Lad dropped his rider and Over The Water threatened to start his race there and then. Rough Quest surveyed the scene with wry detachment. He had seen all this and plenty more

Even at the first hurdle, a full metre lower than the last obstacle he jumped in public, Rough Quest done. He must bave trailed the field by upwards of 30 lengths before halfway, but there was no denying the ease with which he closed on the leaders four fences from the finish. From that point, Casey could afford

"I could see he was going best," the trainer said, "Before the race I had visions of everything going wrong but he had a lovely gallop round. He should be in very good order for Kempton after that. The horse is hardly blowing, even though he had to race from the last." Indeed, without a sloppy jump at the final flight, Rough Quest would barely have come off the bridle.

THUNDERER 2.00 Stop The Waller 2.30 Glowing Path . 3.00 SOLBA (nep) 1.00 Around The Gale 1.90 General Tonic 3.30 Scoring Pedigree TOTE JACKPOT MEETING . GOING: GOOD · : SIS 12.30 MAESFEN NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (£2,089; 2m if) (18 namers)

089: 2mt 1) (18 runners)

09560 ADMRIAL'S GUEST 30 (W Roberton) W Clay 4-11-5. R Farrent, 7
8-5F50 A LFELAL 8 (V) Diets J Welson) J Jenkorn 4-11-5. W Medical 7
5550 A LFELAL 8 (V) Diets J Welson) J Jenkorn 4-11-5. W Medical 8
24/55-00 RODAN TEMPLE 12 (D Clades) K Sistanp 5-11-5. R Science 8
05/2-082 LINES STREE BELIGS 12 (B) (Chebestam Razing) C Bools 5-11-8. G Binching 5
05-0-082 MEST FACE BLIGS 12 (B) (Chebestam Razing) C Bools 5-11-8. G Binching 5
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00-RAFERITIO 25-6 (TTING: 7-2 Line Street Blues, 4-1 6 Warn, 9-2 World Boat, 6-1 Rettle, 6-1 Festini Gold, 14-1 Admins's Guest 1995; HANRLTON SILK 3-10-2 & Harding (10-1) M Mangher 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

ADMRRAL'S EUEST 241 Bit of 21 to Peter Monamy on selling hundle at Leicester (2m.good in sell) and selling hundle at Leicester (2m.good in selling hundle at Leicester (2m.good in selling hundle at Member at Leicester (2m.good in selling hundle at Member at Leicester (2m.good) in SMLEY FACE further 261 Bit. MEMT BOAT 1141 SAN LEICEST BOAT 1141 B

1.00 ST HELENS FORD NOVICES CHASE (£4,358: 2m 4/ 110yd) (8 rumers) 215-12 APOLINO THE GALE 35 (C.F.S.) (I Whiley) 8 Gardollo 5-11-6. R Dimenoldy (B. 451-14) APOLINO THE GALE 35 (C.F.S.) (I Whiley) 8 Gardollo 5-11-6. R Dimenoldy (B. 451-14) APOLINO THE GALE 35 (D.F.S.) (A C.B. 11-6. THE STANDARD THE STANDARD APPLICATION OF THE STANDARD APPLICATION BETTONG: 4-5 Around The Gale, 9-2 Decybory, 6-1 Naugity Fotons, Valley Garden, 6-1 Chipped Oct, 10-1 Samery 14-1 others 1996: EVEN BLUE 7-11-0 8 McCain (25-11 Mrs. C Black 9 can

FORM FOCUS

AROUND THE GALE best Rathers 12th m 11-numer in the process of the Sangar (2m 11, good) a Sangar (2m 11, good) a Sangar (2m 11, good) a Sangar (2m 12, good) a Sangar (2m 13, good) a Sangar (2m 14, son) with MACGEORGE (6b) bests off 41 5th.

LECYBORG 79:1 3rd of 13 to Paisy of Anguran in Chara at Authent (2m 51, good) and the Sangar (

1.30 ASTRURY WHEN HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,765; 3m) (7 numers) BETTRIC: 3-1 General Tonic, 7-2 Freddie Muck, 4-1 Hafriften Led, 9-2 Call My Starst, 6-1 Sun Series, 12-1 Liste

1985: PHARANEAR 5-10-10 W Marsion (15-8) () Misbalson 8 am

FORM FOCUS

SURI SUPPRET 27 3rd of 6 to Treasure Again in Immile at Hoydrock (2m 77 140)rd, good) NAPTHEN MAKE 549 3rd of 7 to Lansdowne in Immile at Hoydrock (2m 77 140)rd, good) NAPTHEN MAKE 549 3rd of 7 to Lansdowne in Immile at Hondrock All Mindoury (2m 110)rd, good). GENERAL TONIC beat for Mindoury (2m 110)rd, good). GENERAL TONIC beat Karar 1941 in 15-roman handcop burdlesses of Suppress of 10 2nd of 5 to Fred Earth to CALL MY SUEST 101 2nd of 5 to Fred Earth to beater of) halled at 10th. Selection: FREDDIE MUCK

COURSE SPECIALISTS JOCKEYS

RACELÎNE BANGOR 101 201 EXETER 102 202

CATTERICK 103 203

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

Marston ousted

WARREN MARSTON WILL be replaced by Norman Wil-hamson aboard Nahthen Lad when the Jenny Pitman-trained Sun Alliance Chase winner makes his reappearance at Bangor today, and Williamson will keep the ride for the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day. TEODE PO CERM LINE RACECARD 113143 6000 TMES 13 (BF.F.G.S) (Mrs 0 Roberson) 6 Half 12-0

Gring on which based has some (F = fam, pood to fine, hard. 6 — good. 5 — soft, good to soft, brany). Owner is basedest. Trainer Age and neight. Richer plus any allowance. The Tames Private Familicapies's softing.

2.00 CHALLE RICHARDS MALT WHESKY HANDICAP CHASE (£4,163: 4m 1f) (10 runners)

(24, 163. 401. 1) (10 FUTBERS)
21 P.463 STOP THE WALLER 18 (C.G.S) (R Burged F Murphy 7-11-10 __ Mr R Thornton (S) 91
402 SPRY-4 (FROMT LINE 18 (S) (L) P McMann) J I 8 Yell 9-1, -1 __ Mr R Thornton (S) 91
403 250-214 (SEP R (I PPER) 14 (E.F.G.S) (Mr I S Bown) G Strawtor 6-10-9 __ J A McCordy 91
404 P.4154 SLEPHON PRINCESS 16 (F.S) (P McCord) Mis M Jones 8-10-6 __ _ 8 Byros 91
405 10281-38 HOLY STANG 12 (E.S) (G McCord) Mis M I 1-Davis 7-10-6 __ _ C Liverby 19
406 SPRY-4 DESPRANCE 18 (E.S) (G McCord) A Forder 8-10-5 __ _ A P McCory 22
407 355/862 ROCKY PARK 12 (S) (I Goodel C Belding 10-10-5 __ _ A P McCory 22
408 423-45 SPRANCE PRINCE 12 (V.G.S) (Mr W Beammand) M Reprinced 9-10-1 __ Mr Williamon (E)
409 444-35 SPRANCEP 11 (S) (I Goodel C Belding 10-10-0 __ Mrs S Branching) (P May 10-10-0 __ Mrs S Branching) (P PAPK-5 LERRINALL PRINCESS 18 (C.S) (J Headhard) J Magnitum 10-10-0 __ G Hogen (S) 80 Long handlags Laintell Presess 5-1.

SETTREE 7-2 Holy Sting, 4-1 Restly Park, 9-2 Keep it Elepted, 5-1 Step Toe Whiter, 6-1 Front Line, 6-1 Storter Princess, 12-1 others. 1995: NAZZARO 8-10-11 A Thombon (6-1) W G M Tureer 12 mit

FORM FOCUS

STOP THE WALLER SI 3rd of 7 to Chrishman
Genze in handicap chase at Warnetch (3m 22, good).
FRONT LINE 26l 4th of 9 to Turning 1th to familiary
cap chase at Newcastle (3m, good). IGEP 11
ZPPED best Boy Gorden Si in 9-rusers powice
chase at Fernivell (3m 21 119;c, good). GLENFINI
PRINCESS best imperial Virtuge 14l to 4-ousser

Selection: BOCKY PARK

2.30 RED COAT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,640; 2mi 19) (10 runners) | Section | Color | Co

BETONG: 11-4 Kinton, 3-1 Glowing Path, 4-1 Schwoole, 6-1 Never So Star, Country Marstrel, 7-1 Katlan, 12-1 offices. 1995: CFRIS'S GLEN 6-10-13 Guy Lews (7-1) J Bradley 11 can FORM FOCUS

NEVER SO BLUE boal Par Of Jacks 3M1 to a 4ruram labes fundicap funde at Nothingham (2m,
good to 6m2).

SHEEP STEALER boat Poly Leach 111 in a 9runner conditional (solars) fundican bandle at Etim (2m, 21, good to 10 broit), GLOWING PATH 114.

Said of 11 to Proteomod Packer in a conditional
justings bundicap handle at Lealow (2m, good to

Solocians GLOWING PATH

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Solocians GLOWING PATH

3.00 CLWYD HANDICAP CHASE (24,065: 2m 4l 110yd) (9 runners) 4312-11 FOOLS EPRIVIDE 25 (D.S.) (Als. O Press) 6 Belder 6-12-0. A P McCop 91 1134-5 SOLBA 37 GJ.E.S.) (R Anderson General C Parier 7-11-9. S Sourcey 90 502-P-02 REALLY A PARCEAL 11 (CD.S.) (F Wodey) 8 Gandelo 9-11-5 R Decembory 95 INTERPRETATION DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROP

BETTING: 6-4 Fools Brand, 4-1 Really A Rescal, 5-1 Sister Posta, 6-1 Mine's An Aca, 7-1 Solia, 16-1985: DISTRICTIVE 6-10-8 C Libertlyn (10-1) M Willerson 9 mm FORM FOCUS

FOOLS ERRAND best Nickler hand to 7-rums' bundens chase at handon (2m 8t, good) with REALLY A RASCAL (2h beter off) 2/81 3rd.

SULBA 9/81 3rd of 5 to Regal Romper is handoned chase at Cartel Can, good with POTATO MAN 131 lest. REALLY A RASCAL 21 2rd of 16 to 8 the Real Parenter (2m 3t, good to level 11 lest reserve (2m 3t, good to soit).

Substitut No. 11 lest reserve (2m 3t, good to soit) serve (2m 3t, good to soit) serve (2m 3t, good to soit).

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Substitut No. 11 lest reserve (2m 3t, good to level 11 lest reserve (2m 3t, good to soit).

3.30 YELLOW COLLAR INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,658: 2m 11) (14 curners)

1 MEDAS 30 (C) (14 DETRIES)

1 MEDAS 30 (D.F) (D Rebrester) MES P Behretzo 8-11-4. Goy Lewis (5) (CASS-NEL DELAY 25 (D Behretze) MES P Behretzo 8-11-4. Goy Lewis (5) (CASS-NEL THE MOON Freedring) 8 Bailling 4-11-4. A P MeDoy (NO DAYCHE STANKER 387 (J Pristen) MES S Wilton 5-11-4. T Bery GOWER-STANKE (B Beauty P Boues 4-77-4. R Johnson 6-11-5 (DAYCHE STANKER 31 (S MEDIS) J Medison 4-11-4. S Courant 54 (T MEDIS) PERMISSE 34 (S MEDIS) J Medison 4-11-4. S Courant 54 (T MEDIS) MEDIS PERMISSE 34 (S MEDIS) J Medison 4-11-4. T DESCRIPTION THE ESING (Stam Hall Soil Cataly D Medison 4-11-4. T DESCRIPTION (S MEDIS) MEDIS A 11-4. A ROCKE 4 CALLINGUE 47 (J Medisons) J Medison 4-11-4. D Wester (S) 4 Westerson 4 (C) Medison 4-11-4. S Goy Lyons 5 MAGGE STRAIT 265 (B Golds) Min A King 4-10-13. Sing Lyons 5 MAGGE STRAIT 265 (B Golds) Min A King 4-10-13. Sing Lyons 5 MAGGE STRAIT 265 (B Golds) Min A King 4-10-13. E Harbord (S) 5 Medison 3-1 Medison 3-1 Medison 3-1 Medison 5-10-13. E Harbord (S) 5 Constant Articles 3-1 Medison 3-1 Medison 5-10-13 (D Constant Articles) The Minon. The Core BETTURE: 5-2 Scoting Fedigues. 3-1 Middes. 6-1 Californice, 8-1 Water Ford, 12-1 Chassing The Micon, The Cropp, Boy, Macrossi Tudor, 14-1 albers.

1995: PELONGTON 5-11-1 S Centra (20-1) No. H Parcel 17 ros FORM FOCUS

JUST ARDY 541 14th of 18 in Manch's Manton in Mancoul Horl Fist near at Cautarrism (2m 170)d, good to Small, SCORM'S PERISERS disqualided star beating MEMS (70 were set) 17% in 10-mones National Host Fist near at Tamber (2m 11, good to Small, Score). The CROPPY BOY 144 th of 16 to Lord Fisters (2m 11, good to Small, Score). The CROPPY BOY 144 th of 16 to Lord Fisters (2m 11, good to Small, Score). The CROPPY BOY 144 th of 16 to Lord Fisters (2m 11, good to Small, Score). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 11, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 11, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 11, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 11, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 11, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 12, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 12, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 12, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 12, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 154 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 12, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 144 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 12, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 144 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 12, good to 18 to Lord Fisters). The CROPPY BOY 144 th of 18 to Lord Fisters (1m 12, good to 18 to Lord Fisters).

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS-

Folkestone

Twelth (4th) 4 mm, 8t, 11, 18t, J Bradley at Overslow, Tate, DS.80, DF 12.70 CSF-99.89

99.89
1.00 Cm 2I ch) 1. BALLY CLOVER (N Williamson, 7-4 fav, Thandarer's rap); 2, Barnstown Bill (C Maudis, 20-1); 3, Gilen Mirage (Mise M Coombe, 9-1) ALSO RAN 4 Diamond Fort (Sth), 15-2 Credon (4rd), 8 Mir Inveder (Sth), 12 Sorbiere (h, 20 Vicar Ol Bary Ord, 40 Johan Jack (pu), Ming's Courier (pu), 18 ran 27-4, 31-4, 11-4, 105, dist. Mise V Williams at Herotord, Tote 12-70, E1.30, E3-40, DF C14-90 This E47-90, CSF E30 45 Tincact 1278 DA.

520 45 Tincact: \$219.04.

1.30 (2m of 110ych hole) 1, ANNSI SONT BL (D. Bindywater, 7-2); 2, Reve Spread (C. Maude, 13-2); 3, Reve Spread (C. Maude, 13-2); 3, Reve Bindse (M. Routerds, 25-1), ALSO RAN 3-1 law El Freddie (ph.), 6 Dincan Leader (6th), 9 Bright Sapphres, 10 Dusstlass, 18 Grand, 20 Equily 9 Baring (ph.), 5 Seedly Deposed (h.), 55 Raeflen, Script, Summer Haven (Hr), 100 Lets Go Nove (5th), 14 ran. 41, 44, 61, 2 h.), 101 G. McCourt at Wantage Toler, 25-80, 270, 2150, 210 to 12 Equil 10 Incr (2415), 105 CSF, 225-94, Incest C477-49

CATZ 49
2.00 (2m Si chi 1, MELNIK (C.Maudo, 9-11 2. Conquering Leader (M. A. Fitzgerald, 10-11 lan); 3, Ser Leonard (J. Ozborne, 5-1), ALSO (FAN, 4. Jovid Men) (59), 12 Gruca A Cod (55h), 16 Sheriffmus, Steamore Gaie (481), 66 Lift And Load (but, 100 Carry's Cottage, Night Fency (10 ran 1 1-(9, 12), 3, 3), Mrz A Penter & Pubrough 10 er 122, 0; 22, 0; 160, 12 80 OF £18 60, The £23 90 CSF, £17 73. E2 80 OF £18 60. The £23 90 CSF. £17 73.
2.30 22h 41 1104 hdte) 1, ROUGH CUEST
(M A Fizzyratid, 5-1), 2, Death D'Estruval (D
Bridgheiter, 11-4 [-ksp.), 3, Royal Event (F
BUTPCOS), 11-4 [-ksp.), 4.SD RAN 11-4 [-ksp.
4.SD RAN 11-4 [-ksp.), 11-4 [-ksp.), 4.SD RAN 11-4 [-ksp.
4.SD RAN 11-4 [-ksp.), 5. Royal Event (F
Water (pul, 3) Extray Wood (58h), 5.calamed
[pul, 40 Noquata (pul), 50 Nyto's Royerige,
Master Bornber (pul, Pst Lud (pul) 14 ish
NP Kemish Man *1, 254, 51 (10. 8) T Casay
31 Upper Lambourn Tole 55 00, £130,
22 80, £1.40 DF £17 50 Ther £37 60 CSF
£20 35
3, 00 (2m ch) 1, PEGMAPSNE (G Hoose).

3.00 (2m ch) 1, PEGMARRIE |G Hogan, 13-2) 2, Soleil Danow (P Herriey, 11-1), 3, Fishu (M Cinton, 15-8 lav), ALSO RM-1, 2-Wile Maket (ut), 5 Dawn Chance (6th), 7

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: GAYE FLAME (3.1D Exeter) Next best: Kimanicky (1.10 Exeter)

Shalk (5th), 20 Cruce Coreol (4th) 7 ran 1/L 9, 14, 16, dist. Mrs A Woodroe at High Wycombe Tote 09:30, 23:00, 25:50 DF 224:90 CSF 080:71 Wycombe Tota (1930, 1310), 15 to 17 124 90 (27 m) if 110yd 8st) 1, GUEDO (N) Williamson, 12-1), 2, Brownes Hill Lad (D) Bridgester, 4-1); 3, Mer's Music (G) Hogson, 20-1), ALSO RAN 3-1 Lav Supreme Froglodyke fethi, 4 Sares Desight, 5 St. Mežaon Lessure, 8 Kishey, 12 Benji, 30 Full Ci Bourne, 25 Jayosleba (16th), 33 Calonel Jack, Eurochel, Husicano Jarre (6th), 40 Christofhatch, Fornan Astor, 50 Spart Or Success, Young Manny, 17 fan Mr. 19, 42, 51 Miss V Williams at Horstond Total City City Co. 20 50 40 OF 61 70 Thound won (pool of 6249 12 canied Sprand 15 Ja0 Caltrinok sothy), USF, 102 59 Jedgect not won (pool of 65,837 25 camed forward to Bartgor today).

Musselburgh Going: firm, exced to firm in olaces

12.20 (2m 44 hole) 1. Invest Wisely (R Gardy, 5-6 law, 2. Smolansk (6-5) 3. Nessal (16-1) 6 ran Nk, 181 M Hammond Tote-(1.80; C1.00, C1.50 DF-E1 10 CSF E2.08 12.50 Gm cht 1. Heddon Haugh (fi Supple 100-30); 2. Engerhal (7-1); 3. Mrs. Lampight (7-1). Corporal Kriwnod 3-1 far fur) 8 mm; 4); 3. P. Cheephough, Tole, C.19 C.18, 52.20, (2.30, DF, 122.20, CSF, 123.77 acca, table 9: 12220. GST 12377 1.20 (2m hdis) 1. Trisonium (4 Dobba: 18-11 (3m) 2. Secondo Assey (7-11 3, Catlon Lady (16-11 9 nm. 3, 11 P Montodi: Tota 12-50, Et al) 2320 (3f- 9300 Tho 182-80 CSF 28 11 Tricas) 139 64 1.50 (2m of etg 1, Montrave (A Dobbo 5-1); 2, Purtisu (7-2), 3, Psychacoo (9-4 lay) 6 rati 34, 61 P Montests Tote (55-90, 52-90, 52 70 DF 52 20 CSF (220 65 2.20 (3m hale) 1, Supertop (R Gernty, 5-2); 2, D'Arbay, Street (4-1); 3, Tallywaggar, 2-1 1sty, 4 ran. 8, 151 L Lunga, 7cm 52 90 DF: 05.90 CSF: \$16.97 2.50 (Em. ct) 1. Cerdenden (B. Storey, 5-2): 2 Repid Mover (4-1), 3. Audicial Field (11-10 lan), 4 ran. 94, S. J. Barclay, Tole 12.80 OF 05.30. CSF 010 48. 120 (2m 5er) 1. Cartisle Bandito's (M Moloney, 5-1), 2. Secus Wasner (7-2), 3. Math Soires (5-4 ten), 4 ran, 6. nk, J Berry Tote (2.20, Dr. 12-50), CSP 35-49 Plesspot (188.80. Quadrot 2)14.10.

The meeting at Southwell was called off because of log.

EXETER

THUNDERER 12.40 Peter Monamy, 1.10 Kimenicky, 1.40 Fabutous Mtoto, 2.10 Khalidi, 2.40 Shining Light, 3.10

Royal Ruler. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.40 SHINING LIGHT.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES)

12.40 GEMINI RADIO CLARMING HURDLE (£2,102: 2m 2f) (9 runners)

4-5 Petus Moramy. 5-1 Top Stopper, 6-1 Water, 12-1 Fortunes Rose. 14-1 others 1.10 CHILDCRAFT HOVICES CHASE (£4,958: 2m 2f) (13)

6-4 Kloracushy 2-1 Castletethyleacies, 6-1 Groowing, 17-1 Josafon, 14-1 others.

1.40 HENRIETTA KINGHT SOTH BIRTHDAY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (53,129: 2m 2l) (11)

7-4 Scords (4e from 2-1 Supreme George, 8-1 Fabulous Alboto, 10-1 Tap Strees, 12-1 Winnow, 14-1 Above The Cat. Cool George, 16-1 others. 2.10 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE / JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION HANDLE (Outsities: £3,590; 2m 2t) (7) 1 1827 SLEW MAN KOD (S) M Proc 5 11-10. C Moods —
2 1-43 IPHALDI 11 (F.G.S.) O Gandato 7-11-3. Sophia Mitchell (5) 95
3 F1-P DECDE YOUNGELF 196 (F) 11 -James 6-10-11 . M A Pizzpand (E)
4 OPP. STRIBES SAMT (25) (CD.S) Mass C feater 7-10-11 . . . 6 Upton 95
5 -70- BELL ONE 238 (C.F.) A Denn 7-10-10 S McMail. 94
6 -4-1P DEGEMON PRINCE 33 (C.F.) Phoiss 5-10-0 . . . A Mangare 94
7 31/1 ROAD TO AU BON 20 (C.F.) R Bales 8-10-0 8 Powell 85 77-4 Edgement Prince, 3-1 Slow Map, 9-2 (Onlich, 5-1 Decide Yourself, 7-1 Bell Cre 3-1 Road for An Bon. 12-1 Spring Saint.

2.40 EDIMBOURG HANDICAP CHASE (£4,857: 2m 7i 110yd) (7)

5 64-4 DATIS REGRETS 43 (8F F-5) Max H Kinght 6-12-0 J Osborne 91 2 563 SURLEY BAY 244 (6.5) P Nichelt 10-11-9 ... P Nide 94 3 8-33 DOM SAMOURA 29 (6.5) M Ppc 5-11-5 ... C Meade 68 4 -F31 DISHALOW LODGE 20 (F-6.5) C Barwel 9-10-13 . B Fenton 93 5 122- RULL OF REC 242 (F-5) k Bainy 9-10-11 ... C D'Dwyer 94 6 125-1 SPEZSES LENT 23 (6.5) B Krepton 7-10-6 ... A Magner 93 7 F44 MASTER JOLSON 729 (F-6) N Henderon 8-10-5 M A Progradu 9-4 Shareng Lugat, 4-1 Dato, Regulati. 9-2 Dubablow Ludge, 5-1 Full DI Fire 6-1 Darn Sarroura: 8-1 Sonley Bay 16-1 Macier Jokson.

3.10 HOECHST ROUSSEL PANACUR EEF MARES ONLY NATIONAL HUNT MOVICES HURDLE (Cualifier: £3.632: 2m 3l 110yd) (18)

17-4 Roser Bay. 3-1 Gaye Farne, 7-2 Fictions The Facts, 6-1 Royal Bules, 12-1 Dates Nation, 14-1 Garges Main, 16-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSPRS: Lifes H Regul. 30 emers: from 88 mones. 34.1%, M Page. 73 trans 277, 26.4%. M Henderton, 6 from 23, 26.1%. A Dasse, 5 from 26, 23.1%. P Hobbs, 23 from 123, 18.7%, N Easley, B from 50, 18.0%. JOCKEYS: J Ostorne, 29 womes from 77 rides, 26.0%, M A Fibrgerald, 17 from 195, 16.2%, L Harvey, 9 from 63, 14.3%, P Henley, 3 from 22, 13.6%; C Maude, V from 65, 10.6%, S Middeill, 7 from 65, 10.6%.

CATTERICK

THUNDERER 12.50 Ambei Valley, 1.20 Sudden Spin, 1.50 Dorlin Castle, 2.20 Funetto, 2.50 The Toastei, 3.20 Maple Bay.

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.50 GLEBE NOVICES CHASE (£3.043: 2m) (6 runners)

1 -512 MEDRYMAN 25 (F,G) M Hammond 6-11-5 ... R Gamity
2 2251 TWMN FALLS 25 (ED,F,G) 8 Moore 5-11-5 ... J Callaghan
3 14-2 AMBER WALLEY 8 (S) 6 Wallans 5-10-12 ... P Holiey
4 04-6 FERMICK'S (ROTHER) 12 (F) Mrs 5 Smith 6-10-12 . R Gates
5 US-0 FRIEDOLY NORSH'I 14 (6) J Heldane 6-10-12 . T Reed
6 PP-0 GOME ASHORE 40 M Barres 5-10-12 ... S Taylor (5) 11-10 Monyoran, 3-1 Isafa Falls, 7-2 Amber Varley, 8-1 Femalck's Brother, 16-1 Frandly knapls, 25-1 Gone Ashore

1.20 CATTERICK CLUB 1997 JOIN UP NOW AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,120: 2m 3l) (12) 1 26-3 SUDDEN SPIN 14 [C.G.S.] J Norson 6-12-0 M H Autogation (5) 2 F4PD FLAT TOP 7 (5) M W Easterby 5-11-9 M Watson (7) 3 1121 FAWLEY FLYER 14 (F.G.S.) (0) W G M Jumer 7-11-5 F Rehintering (2) E Babrigton (7)
4 4P-4 DUKE OF PERTH 7 (6) J Johnson 5-11-4 . . Miss P Jones (5)
5 6-32 TALL MEASURE 33 (8,F) D Sympleture 10-11-0 5 6-32 TALL MEASURE 33 (8,7) D Semicletural 10-11-0
6 0F-0 GYMCRAK SOVEREIGN 11 (6,5) 8 Evans 0-10-12
Miss C Evans (7)
7 04-0 TRISTANTS COMET 192 (6,5) J L Hams 9-10-7 R Halle (5)
8 56-6 FRYUP SATELLITE 14 Mr. J Brown 5-10-7 Miss P Robson (5)
9 073- HIGH PERHOWS 329 (7) J Gunto 8-10-3 ... C Bonner (3)
10 0-60 CUILLIN CAPER 20 1 Watcon 4-10-3 ... Miss R Clark (7)
11 70-0 Sci PATM 11 N Bycott 7-10-0 ... P Miss S L Lamb (7)
12 6-04 RUBSILAW 9 Mrs K Lamb 4-10-0 ... Miss S L Lamb (7) 5-2 Date Di Pertin, 3-1 Faviliny Ryer, 5-1 Sudden Spin, 6-1 Flat Top Tall Measure 10-1 High Peohouet, 16-1 others

1.50 GOOD LUCK PAUL ALSTER NOVICES CHASE (£3,179: 3m 1t 110yd) (6)

1 - 41F GEMS LAD 14 (D.F) Mrt. S Smith 9-11-5 . R Guest
2 - 41F 6RD0M9RL DUNCR 0 J Johnson 6-10-12 ... A Bobbin
3 P00 CLOWRICH E LUCKY 8 J Wado 6-10-12 ... A Bobbin
4 SF6- DORENIC CASTILL 228 (St Lucyo 0-10-12 ... 1 Reed
5 -342 SHAWWELL 15 (F.6) J Charlese 9-10-12 ... A Johnson
6 -40F TICO GOLD 15 P Checknoyth 8-10-12 ... A S Smith
15-8 Dorinic Castle: 5-2 Eems Lad, 4-1 Tico Gold, 5-1 Shawwell, 3-1 Brocents
Dutler, 16-1 Clonnoche Lucky

2.20 RAFFYARD HOUSE SELLING HURDLE (£1.943 2m 3l) (10)

\$\{2\tau_{\text{94.5}}\}\$ ZTT 3() \{1\text{10}\}\$

1 3054 ANORAK 14 (2) 6 Moore 6-11-5 ... N. Hammy (7)
2 0-27 FURRETTS 21 (89-5) M Hammond 6-11-5 ... R Garmy
2 5-65 W A MOMENT 12 (S) C Gast 5-11-5 ... J Callaghan
4 70-0 TRAIGE 19 (S) Mor. A Sewthens 5-11-5 ... J Callaghan
5 -500 COLL STEEL 1 Mor. J Erom 4-10-12 ... A Dorbon
6 0-96 HEAVENS ABOVE 14 F Lamphy 4-10-12 ... X Whelan
7 50 PHAN BEOUGH 12 J Francial 4-10-12 ... X Whelan
9 000 MEESUNETTE 7 (V) 8 Elison 4-10-7 ... E Callaghan (3)
9 000 MEESUNETTE 7 (V) 8 Elison 4-10-7 ... R Goest
9-4 Funetto, 3-1 Anorak 6-) Pray Enough, 8-1 in A Moroest. Normal Gunner
Robert The Bisave 12-1 others:

2.50 BOVILLE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,786; 2m 3f) (7)

1 - 236 THE TONSTER 9 (CD.F.6.5) Miss. M Missgan 9-12-0 A 5 Smath
2 2632 RESEL KING 8 F.G. M Barnes 6-11-7 . S Taylon (5)
3 -542 JANGE BIXX BILLY 8 F.G.) Mar. J Brown 8-11-3 . A Dobbin
3 -542 JANGE BIXX BILLY 8 F.G.) Missractoursh 9-10-10 . R Supple
5 06-P PJMAY OLD GALAG 194 (5) 8 MicLours 9-10-9 . K Jobsson
6 U4FF SHOW YOUR HAND 2 FFIL Largo 8-10-8 . M FORM
7 U4PO KAREMASTIND 8 Mrs 5 Smath 9-10-0 . M P Nurray 7-4 Show Your Hand 5-2 Rebel King, 7-2 Joke Box Billy, 5-1 The Transfer, 20-1 Funny Old Came, 25-1 Tim Solder, 33-1 Hareneston

3.20 HUTTON WANDESLEY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,138: 2m) (14)

1 -061 LAST TRY 25 (CD.F) 8 Rotmell 5-12-0 ... A S Smith
2 -0F3 PAST MASTER 5 5 Goting: 8-11-8 ... K Gaule
3 4240 HIGHLY CHARMING 12 M Barractough 4-11-6 Mr A VArdie /7/
4 -433 BOYNCLIFFE 8 Lists A Mangiron 5-11-3 ... M Foster
5 300 OR EDGAR 16 M Dods 4-11-2 ... R Supple
6 4126 JURGEM 48 6F) Mr. E Stack 6-11-2 ... K Johnson
7 6-30 APPEARANCE MOMEY 15 F Marphy 5-11-0
Misses Excatacth Dovice (7) 7 6-30 APPEARANCE MONEY 15 F Morphy 5-11-0
Mass Excabeth Doyle (7)
8 -366 RANGER SLOAME 43 A Specter 4-10-11 S Lyccil (7)
9 2405 SMAND 7 (0,6) 6 Moore 4-10-10 N Harray (7)
18 DOP MAPLE BAY 257 B Histon 7-10-6 G Cahl
11 5006 MY SHENANDOMH 12 H Diver 5-10-4 V Statlery
12 -0-55 ENMENDAMENTAL LAW 21 (8) W McKeown 5-10-3 A Dobber
13 0-F0 JARROM 18 Bar & Hangland 5-10-1 J Supple
14 0-07 AYDISUN 18 R Curic 4-10-0 D Morris 4-1 Last Try. 5-1 Bourcitie, 6-1 Past Mecha: 8-1 Dr Edgar, My Shenposoon, 10-1 Appearance Money, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRADIERS: A Steeler, 5 weppers from 11 numers, 45.5%, J Outro, 6 from 23, 26.1%; J Fitzgerald, 11 from 49, 22.4%, L Lungo, 0 from 33, 21.1%; J Norton, 3 from 15, 20.0%; Mr. S Smith, 7 from 54, 13.0% JOCKEYS: A S South. 14 womers from 45 rides. 31 1%: E Callaghae, 6 from 25, 24 0%; P Nhen, 15 from 66, 22 7% R Guest, 7 from 37, 18.9%, R Garriby, 13 itom 80, 16.3%, T Reed, 11 from 75, 14.7%,

Blinkered first time BANGOR: 12:30 O'nean, Fostini Gold, Indian Wolf, Pattle CATTERICK: 2:20 Messonetic 3:30 Environmental Law EXETTER 12:40 Robin Island

Nanche ster

Referees three

FOOTBALL

Southampton seek 'feel-good' factor in Coca-Cola Cup

SOUTHAMPTON and West Ham United have failed to win any of their past six league matches and have drifted into the nether regions of the FA Carling Premiership. Tonight. in Coca-Cola Cup fourth round replays against Oxford United and Stockport County respectively, their discomfort could continue.

At least Southampton, eighteenth in the Premiership. have home advantage against Oxford, fifth in the Nationwide League first division. They should be reasonably fresh, too. having spent a week training in Israel trying to recharge distinctly low

Since the 6-3 victory against Manchester United in October, and a subsequent I-I draw with Sheffield Wednesday, Southampton have lost five successive league games, in-cluding the 7-1 humiliation away to Everton. Graeme Souness, the manager, feels that success this evening and a place in the quarter-finals, against West Ham or Stockport — could kick-start their season back to life.

"Oxford are playing well at the moment, we're well aware of that, but perhaps a good result will give us the boost in confidence we need," Souness said yesterday, "The Premiership remains our No I priority, but a nice cup run always

Much will depend on the availability of Matthew Le Tissier, the England midfield player. Injury has forced him to miss Southampton's past four matches, including the 1-1 draw at the Manor Ground last month, and he will have a late fitness test before Souness decides whether to select him.

Oxford's impressive recent form was amply illustrated in their 4-1 home win against Sheffield United on Saturday, in which Martin Aldridge scored a first-half hat-trick. It was at a cost, though, with only eight players able to train on Monday. Darren Purse. Phil Gilchrist, Martin Gray and David Smith were among the casualties, but should recover in time to play at The

"Our first-half display against Sheffield was outstanding." Denis Smith, the Oxford manager, said. "You can't get a lot better than



reproduce it against Southampton."
West Ham face a similarly

awkward task against Stock-port at Edgeley Park, the teams having drawn 1-1 at Upton Park in the initial meeting. "It's all about having the right approach." Frank Lampard, the West Ham assistant manager, said. "You know what you're in for before you even get there.

"Stockport will be geared up for a battle and we've got to cope with it. Skill-wise, we should be the better side, but we've got to match them for aggression and enthusiasm. If we get past them, then you can already smell Wembley."

West Ham's seemingly end-less injury problems appear to be easing, with long-term absentees, Steve Jones and Danny Williamson, nearing full fitness again. Hugo Porfirio, the Portuguese strik-er, is on the mend, too, and may return tonight.

Stockport, sixth in the sec-ond division, drew 0-0 against Peterborough United on Sat-urday, the first time they have failed to score in 24 matches. They have already beaten Premiership opponents in the Coca-Cola Cup this season, winning 1-0 against Black-burn Rovers in a third round tie at Ewood Park in October.

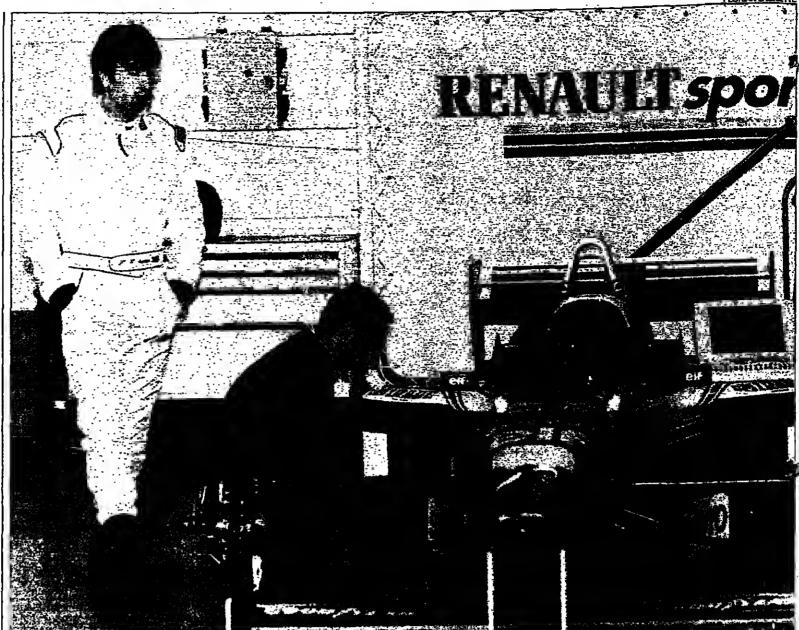
"Most people will expect us to get beaten, but you never know," Brett Angell, the Stock-port striker, said, "We'll give it a go and maybe there'll be

competing for it until the last

possible moment. We man-

supporters. We have a lot of

games coming up and I need



Heinz-Harald Frentzen and the Williams team conduct business as usual during testing at the Castellet circuit in southern France yesterday

Mosley hints at cancellation of races

BY OUVER HOLT

MAX MOSLEY, the president of the FIA, the international motor sport federation, last night issued a veiled warning to the Italian motor racing authorities that both grands prix scheduled to take place in the country next season could be cancelled because of the manslaughter charges arising from the death of Ayrton Senna at Imola in May 1994. Frank Williams, the Williams team owner, and two members of the team are due to appear before a judge in

Imola on February 20 next

year, but Mosley concentrated on the difficulties that may arise because the same charge has been levelled at an FIA official, Roland Bruinseraede, who was the race director at Formula One events that

Mosley insisted that neither the Formula One world championship nor the world rally championship would be affected by the legal action. This is a uniquely Italian problem requiring a uniquely Italian solution," he said. However, he hinted that, if necessary. the San Marino and Italian grands prix, at Imola and Monza respectively, would be cancelled if the position of the Italian legal system on accidental deaths during races was not clarified before the start of the oew season, in Australia on March 9.

Mosley, who has an outstanding reputation as a barrister, said that "the best legal advice" given to the FIA was that the six people charged with manslaughter, including Patrick Head, the Williams technical director, and Adrian Newey, the team's chief designer, would be acquitted. More substantial is the

difficulty the FIA now faces in

persuading international officials to carry out their functions at Italian events," Mosley said. The presence of international officials is essential if a race or rally is to form part of an international championship. There may also be difficulty persuading competitors outside

Bernie Ecclestone, the president of the Formula One Constructors' Association, added his voice to the general indignation that has been prompted within the sport. "To accuse somebody of negli-gence is nonsense," he said. "If someone had cut through a brake pipe and you could prove it, then the person responsible would have been in trouble whatever country he was in.

"I am hoping that the Italian Government will look at their law and bring it in line with other countries. It is not realistic to threaten a ban an motor racing in Italy, but if Frank Williams was found guilty I doubt if any team would want to go there and race knowing they could end up in the nick."

Legal quirks, page 12

Robson has high hopes for Kinder

ager of Middlesbrough, believes he may have made the first step towards arresting his team's slide down the FA remersnip After an impressive week's training on Teesside, Robson ls planning to include Flav Kinder, 27, three times the player of the year in Slovakia. in the Middlesbrough line-up in the reserve team fixture against Port Vale tonight.

He could be a good one for us because he's an experienced international and a left-footed player, which we need for balance," Robson said yesterday. Middlesbrough hope to receive international clearance in time for Kinder to play in the Pontins League match at the Riverside Stadium. "He's looked good on the

ball in training, now we want to see hun in a game." Robson said. Emerson will also appear in the match, in an attempt to improve his fitness. alongside Fabinho, playing his first match for the club. ☐ Ruud Gullit, the Chelsea manager, is preparing a bid for Lou Cavaco, 22, the Stockport County striker. Guilit has had Cavaco watched three times since he forced his way into County's first team this season, although he has played only ten senior games.

Burns demands end to Celtic disputes

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

FACED with the prospect of Celtic's puruit of Rangers at League premier division collapsing long before the end of day demanded an end to the "anarchy" that has enveloped Parkhead of late. As he did so, the Celtic manager pointedly complained that Pierre van Hooijdonk is not helping morale at the club.

Van Hooijdonk, who is wrangling over his contract and his long-term future at Celtic, developed a groin strain somewhere between being an unused substitute for Holland against Belgium in a World Cup qualifying match in Brussels on Saturday and Celtic's Barrowfield training ground yesterday morning and is rated an unlikely starter for the visit to Dunfermline

tonight.
The last I saw him he had an ice-pack on his groin in the dressing-room," Burns said of his errant striker, adding that he was happy to postpone talks with the player until the end of the season so that the club can concentrate on its championship challenge.

"This season is not about about Celtic Football Club trying to win a championship. Most certainly, it is about

aged that last season and want to do the same this year - and that, but if all we want is to fight with each other, shouting for this player to go or that player to go, or the manager to go, it just causes anarchy. This is a vital time for everyone at Celtic. For myself, the rest of the management, the players, but, most importantly, for the

everyone to stick together." Phil O'Donnell, the midfield player, is ready to return for Celtic after playing only two matches this season, against Kosice and Aberdeen, in early August. He then suffered a thigh problem, but has played three comeback matches with

the reserves.

We've taken our time bringing him back, but Phil will be involved and it is a huge boost," Burns said. "He can be such an influential player for us and we all look forward to him coming back." ☐ Dundee United are to push ahead with work to increase the capacity of Tannadice from the present 12,608 limit to 14,300. United are to extend the existing South Stand at a cost of more than El million.

GOLF

WEST INDIES revived their flagging tour in Australia with a seven-wicket victory over Pakistan in the World Series one-day international in Adelaide yesterday. Pilloried for their inept performances after losing nine matches, Courtney Walsh's touring team bounced back.

bowling out the Pakistanis for

176 and hitting 177 for three,

with 83 balls to spare. West Indies had been labelled the worst team from the Caribbean to tour Australia, yet after improved displays from two key men, Brian Lara and Curtly Ambrose, plus an audacious 86 off 78 balls from Junior Murray, the man of the match, West Indies began to look like their old selves.

A career-best five for 37 from Jimmy Adams, the spin bowler, set West Indies on track to a victory made easier by the swashbuckling knock of Murray, playing as a

makeshift opener. Murray, together with Sherwin Campbell (24) hit 69 off 84 balls before Campbell was dismissed by Mushtaq Ahmed. Walsh. without a win. from two Test and two oneday matches against Australia on this tour, was encouraged by the return to form of his strike bowler, Ambrose, who took two for 16, and his leading batsman. Lara. who hit the winning runs to finish

Ambrose was anempting to rediscover the fire that made him ooe of the world's most feared bowlers and Walsh rejected criticism that the Antiguan had looked disinterested and was not trying oo tour. "He's been bowling well but without luck," Walsh said. He's been giving it his all. Today's a happier day. We played well and deserved to

3I not out.

Pakistan's highly-rated spin attack was dealt with severely by Murray and, later, Lara with Saglain Mushtag. man of the match with five wickets against Australia on Suoday, hit for 43 from five overs. "I was very impressed with Lara's innings. There were signs his confidence was

coming back," Walsh said. Murray, who equalled his highest one-day international score, was unlucky to be given out leg-before to Shahid Afridi, who also claimed the wieket of Shivnarine

Chanderpaul for 21.
After being sent in, Pakistan had their confidence sapped by the early departure of the experienced opener, Aamir Sohail, for II and were restricted by a tight spell from Ambrose of six overs for six runs. The introduction of Adams had them struggling to push the run-rate past 3.5 an over.

West Indies discover their fire | Lacklustre Bowe puts Lewis bout in doubt

BY SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

Lennox Lewis and Riddick Bowe is in danger of being shelved indefinitely. While Lewis wants to meet Bowe, it is feared that Bowe's dismal performance and win on a disqualification over Andrew Golota last weekend, may have affected the pay-per-view appeal adversely.
As the bout depends for its

THE proposed bout between

money on pay-per-view, the match may no longer be financially viable. Panos Eliades, Lewis's chief negotiator, said yesterday: "Lennox wants to fight if it is decent money. But if pay-per-view interest has been killed, then the fight's dead."

Lewis's plans are to lift the vacant World Boxing Council title against Oliver McCall in February, then defend it in

TODAYSTRIURES

JEWAON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE Premier division: Sudbury Res v

Woodbridge.
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First di-Vision: Totton v Lymington; Christohurch v Eastleich

September against the winner of the bout between Evander Holyfield and Mike Tyson. Tyson and Holyfield meet in June. The Briton would consider a bout with Bowe after

Eliades said he did nor expect McCall's arrest in Nashville for being drunk and disorderly on Sunday to affect his appearance at a press conference in New York to publicise the bout with Lewis. Eliades also did not think McCall's problems with the police would affect his world title bout with Lewis at the Hilton Las Vegas in any way. In the wings is Henry Akinwande, of Britain, the

World Boxing Organisation champion, who has also been waiting to meet Lewis should Lewis beat McCall.

FOR THE RECORD

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Miami 16 BASKETBALL MATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Boston 91 Milwaulee 107, Toronto 92 Detroil 98: LA Capper. 122 Phoenot 121 (CIT): Sacra-mento 39 Washington 97 7-UP TROPHY: Quarter-final draw: Thancs Valley v Chester: Leoester v 8xmingtam: Leopards v London Towers, Worthing v Sheffield

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

CRICKET World Series

West Indies v Pakistan

West Indies v Pakistan

ADELAIDE Misst Indies with loss! West
Indies boat Pakistan its saven wekets
Pakistan its saven wekets
Pakistan

Aamii Sohial c Adams is Bonjamin 11

Zahoor Bah nin out 51

Ijaz Ahmed b Ambroas 16

Ingariam-iil-Hag c Chandopaul

Mohammod Wasim lov b Ambross 37

Shahd Alndi c Campbell b Adams 37

Masim Alexin c Hooper b Adams 48

Masim Alexin c Hooper b Adams 58

Masim Alexin c Hooper b Adams 68

Masim Alexin c Hooper b Ad

Total (48 4 overs) 176 FALL OF WICKETS, 1-21, 2-66, 3-93, 4-97, 5-102, 6-105, 7-143, 8-163, 9-171 BOWLING Walsh 8-2-24-0: Benjamin 8-0-42-1, MicLean 2-0-13-0, Ambridge 9-4-3-16-2- Hooper 7-1-23-0; Adams, 10-0-37-5; Chanderpaul 4-0-13-0 WEST INDIES

Total (3 Arks, 36 1 overs) 177
FALL OF WICKETS, 1-69, 2-128, 3-137.
J C Adams, R G Semuels, K C G Benjamin, N A M McLean, C E L Ambroac and C McLean did not bat. MOLEAN GO Wasen Akram 5-1-27-0; Wagar BOWLING: Wasen Akram 5-1-27-0; Wagar Youris 5-0-28-0; Saglam Mushtag 5-0-43-0; Mushtag Ahmed 10-0-32-1; Shahed Aindi 8.1-1-31-2; Aamer Sonall 3-0-13-0

FA UMBRO TRIOPHY: Third qualifying round replays; Granthum 2 Budton 1 FA YOUTH CUP: Second round replays; Southerd 4 Rushden and Durnords 0. Walkall 2 Marichaster 4 SCREWRE DRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Taunton 1 Torrington 1 **FOOTBALL** Monday's late results
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Derby
County 0 Eventor 1

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Derby County 0 Everior 1
TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: First cound replays: Fortar 4 Abiton 0, Clyde 3 Huntly 2.
SPALDING CUP: Quarter-firmit: Nuclear market 1 Rushdon and Demonds 0
UNIBONO LEAGUE: President's Cup: First round: Replays: Guzzan Astron 0
Altrelon 3 UniBile linst division cup: Second round: Astronion 1 Droyleaden 1.
AYON INSURANCE COMERNATION: First division: Cardin City 1 Swindon Town 1.
Crystal Paiace 2 Lufon Town 0. Crystal Paiace 2 Lufon Cardin 1 Swindon Town 1.
PONTRIS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Cardinal Swindon 1.
Wolverhampton 3 Huddiersfield 1. Second division: Cardinal Swindon 1.

SONY WORLD RANKINGS (US unless stated) 1. G. Norman (Aus.) 10.79pts arcrage, 2. T. Lehmen 9.74, 3. C. Montgomene (GB.9.10.74, E.B.: SA.) 8.60. 5. F. Couples 8.16. 6. N. Feldo (GB), 7.98, 7. P. Mickelson: 7.77, 8. M. Ozak (Japan), 7.58. 9. D. Love III. 7.53, 10, M. O'Meara 7.12: 11, C. Pawn 6.94; 12, S. Stataker 6.19; 13, N. Proce (Ziml. 6.12, 14, S. Elimpton (Aus.) 5.84; 15, S. Hoch (US), 5.44. HOCKEY

NEW DELHI: Indire Gandhi Worten's Gold Cup: Australia 6 China 2, South Korea 3 China 2, India 5 Russia 0 BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE LATEST POSITIONS Second leg Rio de Janeiro to Wellington 6,600 miles & Tide @ 12. 3Com · Courtaulds int 11. Heath Toshiba Wave 52'\$ Insured II ' Save the Children ₱ 10. Ocean Rover. 7. Commercial Union 128°W 3 O) 00. Group 4 — 130°W 4. 6. Motorola 9. Pause to Remember 132°W 54°S 3. Global Teamwork Position as at 13.52GMT yesterday

DISTANCE TO WELLINGTON: 1, Group 4 2,049 miles, 2, Save The Children 2,050; 3, Global Teernwork 2,099; 4, Concert 2,116; 5, Tochiba Wave Warrior 2,124, 6, Motorota 2,127; 7, Commercial Union 2,187; 8, Nuclear Electric 2,196; 9, Pause To Remember 2,211, 10, Ocean Royr 2,278; 11, Hoadt Insured III 2,265; 12, 3Com 2,374; 13, Timey's Tide 2,377; 14, Countaulds International 2,414.

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Tampa Bay 4 Montest 2: Non York Rangers 5 Harland 2: Now Jersey S Calgary 0 SKIING

MADONNA DI CAMPIGLIO: Merris World Cup: Stalone: 1. T. Sytera (Austra) 146 47 sec. 51 431 iron 37 90 ec. 2. A. Tomba (fil (47 13, 51 36) 1138 42; 3. S. Arriez (fil (48 13, 52 06) 138 52; 4. S. Vegiretis: (Austra) 46 40, 52 00) 1.28 50; 5. J. Kosa (Stovena) 46 40, 52 00) 1.28 50; 5. J. Kosa (Stovena) 46 72, 52 00) 1.28 50; 5. J. Kosa (Stovena) 46 72, 52 00) 1.28 50; 5. J. Kosa (Stovena) 46 72, 52 00) 1.28 50; 5. J. Kosa (Stovena) 46 72, 52 00; 1.28 78; 5. J. Kosa (Stovena) 47 00; 5. J. Kosa (No.) 256 4. N. Ven Grüngen (Stovena) 27 14, 51 Locker (Stovena) 27 15, 6. G. Marror (No.) 256 4. N. Ven Grüngen (Stovena) 27 15, 51 Locker (Stovena) 27 15, 6. G. Marror (Austra) 207, Stalone: 1. Sydova 280, 2. T. Stangesampsi (Austra) 180 equal 3. T. Stangesampsi (Austra) 180 equal 3. T. Stangesampsi (Austra) 182 5 Kosar 111; 6, Arriez 96

TABLE TENNIS TIANUIN, China: ITTF tour firets: Men: Kong Lingha (China) bt V Samsonav (Beta) 21-13. 14/21, 21-19. 21-18 Women: Deng Yaping (China) bt L. Ju (China) 21-17, 21-17, 25-23

CUEEN'S CLUB British WTA Christmes foundment First round, J Wood [Middleson by C West (Anon) 6-0, 6-0, F British (Watchies to C Sheerstone: Surroy) 8-2, 6-3; H Parker (Bortshee) bit Wyair (Odordetro) 7-5, 6-3, N Emmals, Middleson bit U Glanstor (Heritordshee) 6-3, 6-1; L Woodon's (Surray) 6-1 K Finch (Sosse) 6-4, 6-2 J White (Northamptonehae) bit I Sruth (Heritordshee) bit R Nauton-Margari (Sosse) 6-4, 6-2 J White (Heritordshee) bit R Nauton-Margari (Sosse) 6-2, 6-7; F Hearn Middleson bit M Barret (Mesthere 6-2, 6-3). L Hether (Heritordshee) 6-3, 6-1; K Woodon (Mitchiel) bit J Korno Wernschame) 6-4, 6-3
3 H Marthors (Bertshee) bit M Martey (Sussey 6-1, 6-1, Suydon (Somerne) bit C Smith (Heritordshee) 6-3, 6-1; B Sasper, Surrey) bit M Booth (Cheshare) 6-0, 6-1, Cuarter-Rist White (1-6), 6-2, F Booth (Chourse-(Watchiel) 2-6, 6-2, 6-4; E Booth (Chourse-(Watchiel) 2-6, 6-2, 6-4; B Booth (Chourse-(Watchiel) 2-6, 6-2, 6-4; Noodon's bit White 6-1, 6-3, Woodon's bit White 6-1, 6-1, Charleson B Woodon 6-2, 6-1, Lyddr Woodon's bit White 6-1, 6-1, Charleson B Woodon 6-2, 6-1, Lyddr Woodon's bit White 6-1, 6-1, Charleson B Woodon 6-2, 6-1, Lyddr Woodon's bit White 6-1, 6-1, Charleson B Woodon 6-2, 6-1, Lyddr Woodon's bit White 6-1, 6-1, Charleson B Woodon 6-2, 6-1, Lyddr Woodon's bit White 6-1, 6-2, Booth B Larrer 6-0, 6-0

Kick-off 730 unless stated * denotes all-tides match FA Carting Premiership Shell Wed v Man Utd (7 45) Coca-Cola Cup

Fourth round replays * Scuthampton v Oxford Utd Stockport v West Harn (7 45) Nationwide League West Bromwich v Norwich (7 45) . . . Second division Milwall v Luton (7 45) Bell's Scottish League Premier division Durlemane v Celuc (8.0) First division Airdne v St Johnstone Speiding Cup Quarter-final

Morecambe v Stalybridge (7,45) .

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Newport AFC v Chetterham (7 45). Southern division: St Leonards v Dartiord. UNBOND LEAGUE CUP: Third round: Knowsky v Creet Harwood. Unitful first division Cup: Second round: Farsey cells v Stockeshndge PS GILBERT LEAGUE OF WALES: Caersws v Cornel/s Cuay, Corness Bay v Rhyl; Corney v Porthrandog: Ebber Valle v Carmarthen Town; Holywoll v Caernarion, Weishpool v Briton Ferry. UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: MS Qoli v Winck, WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Shoppey v Deal. SCREWTLV DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Or Direct Misson: Ordinary of Carre MBNERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS: O'Brery McKentile premier division ou Counterfinals, first leg: London Colney v Arlesey Town, Brache Spart av Todolngton. NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Stational T v Waksall Wood. Premier division: Stational T v Waksall Wood. Premier division league cup: Third round: Ettingstaß v Stownich S.

vision; Torion v Lymmigum; Consideration: Eastleigh.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Cup: Third round: Hall Rid Rigs v Pickering.

AYON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First civilation: Bournemouth v Ouesars Park Rangers; Brighton v Portsmouth (2.0); Bristol Rovers v Tottenham (at Yate Town); Norwich v Chelses; Swanses v Charlton 29 m. (2.0).
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Leads v Manchester United (at Halfax Town FC, 7.0); Tranmers v Notinghein Forest (7.0) Pirat division: Aston villa v Sheffled United (at Wateal FC, 7.0); Blackpool v Coventry (7.0); Middlesbrough v Port Valle (7.0); Sunderstand v Preston (at Durham City FC, 7.0). Second division: Wresham v Rotherhem (7.0); York v Shrousbury (7.0). Third division: Poet-poned: Rochdele v Lincoln. Cup: Group bec: Barnsley v Scattorough (7.0).
FA YOUTH CUP: Second round replay: CPR v Statol Rovers.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Full Film Trophy: Fourth round replay: Cresterfield v East Riching (7.0). FA Premier League Trophy: Under-18: Durham v Northumberland (7.0). Heritordshire v Essex (20). Middisesex v Inner London (1.30). Under-18: Merseyaide v Chestage (7.0). London Cup: Cembridgeshire v, Heritordshire (7.20). **RUGBY UNION** Courage Clubs Champio First division Bristol v Leicester TIPP-EX COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Cambridgestire v Suffolk (et Sheltord); Essex v Noriolk (et Thurrock).

OTHER SPORT EQUESTRIANISM: Clympia Champ-ionahipa (et Olympia). ICE HOCKEY: Men's Olympic qualifying metric Great British v Switzerland (a Sheffeld, 7.90). SWIMMING: ASA regional winter champ lonship (et Shelfleid).

POOLS FORECASTS 34 Dadington v Leyton O X 35 Exeter v Centif 2 36 Hartispool v Heroford 1 37 Lincoln v Chester 2 38 Marsheld v Dorcaster X 39 Northampton v Bernet 1

16 Oxford v Reading 17 P Vale v Portsmouth 18 Shelf Ltd v Oxform Saturday, December 28 Coupon No. facure, forecast FA PREMIERSHIP 19 Swindon v Grinsby 20 West Brom v QPR 1 Append v A Vão 1 Assersi v A Vša X 2 Cheises v Shell Wed 1 3 Coveriny v Meddibro 1 4 Denby i Brachburn 5 Eventon v Warebledon 1 6 Lenorster v Martin F 1 7 Mun Utal v Lends 1 8 Nexussis v Tottenburn 1 9 W Harn v Sundorland X FIRST DIVISION 10 Barnsley v Men City 11 Bolton v Southend 12 Charlion v Webves 12 Charlion v Webves 14 Hudd to v Igoundh 15 Norwich v Bradloid

SECOND DIVISION THIPD DIVISION 33 Colchester v Fulham 1 DRAWS: Assend, West Ham, Crarton, Crystal Paleze, Swindon, Lutan, Presion, Strewalbur, Definication, Margided, St Miner, BEST DRAWS: Charlino, Crystal Polece, Presion, Strewalbury, Darlington.

40 Abardsen v Hibernian 41 Catic v Dunlamitine 42 Hearts v Mathemell 43 Kilmamock v Rangers 44 Rath v Dundes U SCOTTISH FIRST 45 Aliche v Partici: 1 46 Cyclebenk v St. Jokone2 47 Dundee v E File 1 45 St. Mirren v Fallori. X 49 Striing v G Morton 1 FIXED CODS: Homes: Chokea, Botton, Norwich, Burnley, Hartlepool, Armys: Quoens Park Rangers, Chaster, Rangers Draws: Chysial Palace, Strewchury, Darlington.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

Amenda V Middleshor 1
2 Cholses v Liverpool 2
3 Coventry v Sunderland 1
4 Derby v Shariff Wed X
5 Leicoster v Tottenham X
6 Neucastia v Leeds 1
7 Solon v Windledon X
8 West Harn v Noti'm F 1 FIRST DIVISION 9 Barneley v Oldham 1
10 Birmingham v Man Chyk
11 Bolton v Bradford 1
12 Charling v Hosening 1
13 C Plates v Hosening 1
14 Hudd'hd v Stoles 2
15 Nonelch v Portsmouth 1
19 Oxford v Grimsby 1

Coupon No. fature, forecast

17 P Vale v Southend 1 18 Sheff Utd v Wolves X 18 Swindon v OPP X 20 West Brom v Transper1 SECOND DIVISION 21 Brantford v Wycombe 22 Bristol R v Plymouth 23 Burnley v Chest Td 24 Crewe v Milwall 2º Creve v Malmal 2
2º Luton v Puny 1
2º Notes Co v Bournin'in 2
2º Peserboro v Wesford 1
2º Peserboro v Wesford 1
2º Peserboro v Wesford 1
2º Rotherhern v Gal'ghern 1
3º Showebury v Bieclip'i 1
3º Showebury v Bieclip'i 1
3º Walsall v Bristol C 2 THIRD DIVISION

SCOTTISH FIRST 44 E Fife v Stiffing 45 Fallork v Alrohie 48 G Monton v St Milmen 47 Partick v Clyclebank 48 St Johnst'ne v Dunci SCOTTISH SECONT 7: 49 Ayr v Strannatt DRAWS: Derby, Lelcester, Scattempton, POED ODDS: Homes: Arsenal, Newco Briminghem, Shellad Urized, Swindon, Bristol Rovers, Burnley, Easter, Historien, Sest Draws: Lelcester, Bristol Rovers, Burnley, Easter, Bristol Rovers, Burnley, Easter, Bristol Rovers, Burnley, Easter, Burn

SCOTTISH PREMIER

40 Dundee U v Aberdeer 41 Duni'mine v Reith 42 Hiberman v Hearts 43 Motherwell v Kilman

☐ Vince Wri There are two extra coupons (December 26 and January 1) being printed over the Christmas holiday period.
Because of the heavy Christmas post, puriters are advised to submit all four coupons by the end of this week.

£60 million of lottery money, is to be built in Manchester. As a total of £200 million was yesterday pledged towards three facilities, the largest payday from the Government for British sport, Wembley was confirmed as the English national stadium and will receive £120 million. A new swimming complex in Manchester will get £20 with a retractable roof, will cost at least £230 million and will be built after an architectural competition. It will be the

on of ra

Klustre Bow Ais houting



Manchester plan built on City moving home John Goodbody on the grounds that must be met by the

anchester City will have to move its home games from 2001 world athletics championships, 2006 football World Maine Road to the proposed Cup and possibly the Olympic 60,000-seat stadium in East-Games in 2008. lands if the new venue, using

By DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE the Rugby Football Union's dispute with the lead-

ing English clubs may be

grinding towards a conclusion

this week, the Welsh Rugby

Union (WRU) has given a twist to the problems of profes-

sionalism through their rejec-

tion of claims by Welsh

referees which now threaten

the entire club league pro-

The Weish Society of Rugby

Union Referees (WSRUR) has

declared its intention of strik-

ing this weekend unless the

WRU reconsiders its claim to

match fees backdated to Au-

gust 31. The society wants this

COVENTRY, who are pushing for promotion from the

second division of the Cour-

age Clubs Championship,

have turned down the propos-

al of a merger from Coventry City Football Club and will

recommend to members to-

morrow the acceptance of an

investment from Leander, the

property group (David Hands

The rugby club's general.

committee was clearly disap-pointed with the quality of the

offer from Coventry City, which involved the sale of the

rugby ground at Coundon

Road and relocation to a site

in Earlsdon, which the rugby

club had previously explored.

and found inadequate. How-

gramme on Saturday.

over the past five years has staged annually on average 22 sports and seven entertainment events, it is aiready financially viable. Most England football internationals, the FA Cup and league cup finals and leading rugby league fixtures will continue to be held there. However. Sir Rodney Walk-

er, the English Sports Council chairman, said yesterday that The new Wembley, perhaps the money for the Manchester stadium would be conditional on a long-term programme of use of that stadium". As the Football Association will only

scale applied to officials han-

dling games in the top five divisions of the league, but the

WRU is willing to go back

only so far as December 1, and

only for referees handling the

time left to solve this prob-

WSRUR secretary, said. Banfield has made himself

available at any time for talks with the WRU, but has been

told that no further meetings

are planned. "At the moment I

cannot see any other scenario

but for us to withdraw our

If no agreement can be

reached by today, many of Wales's poorer clubs may start

Coventry dismiss City merger

ever, Bryan Richardson, the

Coventry City chairman, ex-

pressed surprise that his

clob's offer had not received a

fuller hearing. Bedford have been linked

with Rudolf Straeuli, the for-

mer South Africa flanker.

Discussions have taken place.

but it is feared that the price-tag on Straeuli is too high. He

was a member of South Africa's World Cup-winning

squad and appeared as a replacement in the final but, at 33, he has only a limited

Richmond have had talks

with Rolando Martin, the

Argentioa flanker, and

Augustin Pichot, his col-

league, the scrum half who

There doesn't seem enough

Hugh Banfield, the

top two divisions.

services," he said.

multimillion pound development of English stadiums Since Wembley Stadium stage in Manchester each year a maximum of one international and an FA Cup semifinal, the arena for 60,000 spectators will not be needed in the North unless City uses

RUGBY UNION: WELSH OFFICIALS IN DISPUTE OVER PAYMENT OF MATCH FEES

Referees threaten to strike

Trafford. Graham Stringer, the lead-er of Manchester City Council, emphasised yesterday that, when the original presentation was made for Eastlands to be the site of the national stadium, Francis Lee, the chairman. of Manchester City, was part of the bidding team.

cancelling arrangements to travel this weekend, to save

money. The wealthier ones,

such as Cardiff, have already

made inquiries among offici-

als to try to ensure that their game with Swansea will go

ahead since they do not want

any interruption of their pro-

gramme before their Heineken Cup semi-final in

Brive on January 5. No referee will be pressured

into obeying the strike call, if

the society decides that that course of action is inevitable.

We are amateurs at the

moment and we have told all

our members that, if they wish

to referee during the strike,

they may do so," Les Peard,

the WSRUR chairman, said.

missed the recent tour because of injury.

Meanwhile, Bristol and
Leicester meet this evening in

the first division match post-

poned from November 9, with

Leicester, in fourth, bidding to

make up ground on Bath, who are third, having played

one more match. Rob Fieldkeeps his place at lock for Leicester while Matt Poole recovers full fitness, but Mar-

tin Corry, the Bristol captain,

remains doubtful because of

the ankle injury that kept him

Craig Barrow stands by to

replace Corry for Bristol, who

need a win to carry them clear

of the bottom three teams.

the ground regularly.

Manchester already has a

55,000-seat stadium at Old

Although Maine Road once held 84,569, the largest crowd to watch an English club game outside Wembley, it now has a capacity of 32,344. Despite £19 million having been spent on rebuilding there since the Tayfor Report, it lacks any unify-

Manchester City would clearly consider moving back from Moss Side towards its original home in the east of the city. Much will depend on whether the supporters would welcome the move and also on how much it will cost City to

He added, though, that the

dispute had endured for 18

months and the society was

They |the WRU| seem

happy enough to pay £50,000

for another director of coach-

ing while new development officers are being offered

£27,000 a year," he said, "but

they won't agree to pay us

£65,340 for a full season of

controlling matches from divi-

Derek Bevan, the leading Welsh official, who handled

the 1991 World Cup final, is

among those prepared to take

action. If the referees do come

out, I hope it will be 100 per

leisurewear company. Leading players, who have been told that they must wear the

company's products when on national squad duty, claim

that it has cut across existing

individual agreements and

Leigh Davies, the Cardiff

centre, is threatened with a

fine by the union for giving a

television interview while in-

act after seeing the perfor-

mance at St Helen's on Satur-day of Joos Joubert, the Natal

centre, during the A interna-

tional between Wales and

South Africa. They spoke with

Joubert before he returned

bome and will contact him in

the new year to see if he is

interested in joining Swansea.

Appeal lost, page 5

Swansea have been quick to

appropriately attired.

The WRU is embattled over its £4 million sponsorship agreement with Reebok, the

sions one to five."

not inclined to back down.

The Manchester swimming complex is more feasible. It will be situated 12 miles closer to the city centre, right in the The Eastlands site has al-

Games

ready been cleared and,

because a main venue will be

needed for the 2002 Common-

wealth Games, a stadium

must be built there for the

athletics and opening and

closing ceremonies. However,

unless Manchester City does

give a commitment for use

after 2002, there would just be

an athletics stadium with a

small permanent stand and a

large amount of temporary

scating for the duration of the

modarion for nearly 70,000 students and staff of the three universities in the city. There will be plenty of public use after the Games. The complex will cost £29 million. Wembley now has to look at

the various options for the stadium. It must also decide whether to build the venue in stages over three years (when the capacity would be drastically curtailed) or to knock down the existing structure and erect a new arena in an estimated three years, during which ome events such as England internationals and the FA Cup Final would be moved elsewhere.

The twin towers will be kept and there will be a new access route to the North Circular

£110 million in the total cost of £230 million will come from private companies and, probably, from football

Graham Kelly, the FA chief executive, confirmed: "In principle, football will be an investor, if, of course, we get the right deal. The FA, FA Premier League and Football League may all consider investments."

A retractable roof could. however, cause problems. Alan Coppin, the chief executive of Wembley plc, said: "As the Amsterdam Arena has shown, there are enormous difficulties in having playable grass pitches with a retractable roof and, for concerts, there are also problems with the sound. We are not con-

IN BRIEF

Agassi will return to **Davis Cup** action

ANDRE AGASSI will open his tennis season in 1997 by making his first appearance in two years for the United States Davis Cup team when it travels to Brazil for a firstround match in February. Agassi, who this month announced he would not play in the Australian Open in January so that he could rest, made his last cup appearance in a 1995 semi-final against Sweden, when he injured his

shoulder, Monica Seles, who broke a finger at an exhibition tournament two weeks ago, has begun practising at her Flori-da home wearing a splint in an anempt to be fit to defend her Australian Open otie.

Defence first

Rugby league: Referees will be encouraged to give defences more time to complete tackles and attacking players must have both arms off the ground before playing the ball next season in an attempt to slow the game and give defenders more of a say.

Other changes that come into effect on January 25, when professional clubs enter the Stik Cut Challenge Cup. include the zero tackle, applying to all tackles after the hand-over regardless of whether the ball is passed first, and a rule forbidding tackles on a player catching a high ball until both his feet are on the ground.

Rosset for Lola

Motor racing: Lola, the Cambridge-based Formula One team, yesterday signed Ricardo Rosset, the Brazilian driver, and Vincenzo Sospiri, of Italy, to spearhead their grand prix challenge next season. Rosset was dropped by TWR Arrows when they signed Damon Hill, the world

Dolphins splash

Americao football: Joe Nedney kicked three field goals and Dan Marino threw a touchdown pass to OJ McDuffie as Miami Dolphins prevented Buffalo Bills from clinching a play-off place with a 16-14 victory. Buffalo's loss secured the AFC East title for New England Patriots.

Record breaker

Rowing: Peter Goodchild, 26, of Vesta Rowing Club, easily beat the six-day sculling record for the 180-mile trip from Lechlade, Gloucestershire, to the Thames Barrier when he arrived at his destination yesterday, less than three days after setting off, during which he was actively rowing for 34 hours.

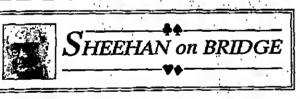
Thomas Sykora, of Austria, won his second World Cup slalom race of the season at Madonna Di Campiglio, Italy, yesterday, but Alberto Tomba, in front of his home supporters, above, snatched the limelight with a remarkable second place un his return from injury. Sykora, who has also had a secood place and leads the statom competition after three races, had an official combined time of lmin 37.90sec on the resort's Canalone Miramooti piste. Tomba, the world and furmer Olympic champion, who will be 30 tomorrow, clocked Imin 38.48see and Schastien Amiez, of France, who fell heavily in the warm-up, was close behind in Imin 38.52sec. It was always going to be Tomba's

day regardless of the outcome, but the result was much more than even the most faithful of his followers - who turned out in force with klazons and banners expected of him. "After the American

races, when there were not so many people, it was a real boost to see so many here, even on a Tuesday," Tomba, who watched the first two slaloms, held in Park City and Breckenridge, on television, said.

Racing for the first time since March, Tomba was eighth after the first leg -Sykora was third - but then turned up the power with the fastest second leg time of 51.35sec. He caught a gate in the face on the first leg and was slightly troubled by bruising under his right eye.

m3 x 33



By Robert Sheeman, bridge correspondent When the dummy has a long side suit but is short in trumps, it is

Contract: Five Sp	ades by Sou	th	Lead: Six of clubs
a H Pass Pass	3 D Pass 5 S	4 H 5 H All Pass	4 S Pess
w	N	E	<u>s</u>
+ 10 65 ♥AQ 10 +632 +6	↑103 765	10974 172 +A VK08 +KQ8 +QJ4:	
Dealer West	Ea	st-West game	IMPs
and from the En	guan u mas.	DELIGO MITO 1 1	

West's Two Hearts was a "weak two". The first trick went seven, jack and ace. Declarer played a diamond to the ace and ruffed a diamond before playing a spade to the king and ace. If East now plays a club and declarer plays low, declarer is home. After West ruffs, declarer will have two entries to dummy (a hears ruff and the queen of spades) to establish and cash

the diamonds. I eventually managed to work this out (Senior said that it took me too long), and so I returned a heart, attacking dummy's trumps. After this, declarer's best chance was to ruff out the diamonds and play a trump to dummy. hoping to find them 2-2. When the trumps were 3-1, his remaining chance was that clubs were 3-2 with East

he played a club off dummy,

and eventually went two

At the other table, the contract was Five Spades redoubled. West led his singleton club, and Graham Kirby, our team-mate, played on trumps immediately. East won and returned the two of clubs. West ruffed and played a diamond, interpreting East's two of clubs as a request for the lower-ranking suit. Now, Kirby was able to establish the diamonds and make the contract. A heart return by West after his club ruff defeats the contract by removing an entry

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday m Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD WATCHING By Philip Howard RICHARDINE

a. An apple b. Heraldic brown

REBUTTER

a. Margarine

b. A spare tup

c. A reply

c. A troubador's song

a. A Portuguese warship b. Edible seawced c. Pub chatter

a. To spy on b. A meadow

CARRAGEEN

3 g3 4 Bg2 5 0-0

6 Nc3 7 Ret

Bb7 e6

0-0 d5 Nxd5 Nxd5 Nxd5



By Raymond Keene 14 Ne5 15. Re3 18 d5 Rc8 exd5 Bd6 Bxc6 Bxd1 Qc7 Nd7 h6 b5 Rd8 Qc4 Rxd7 CHESS CORRESPONDENT Kramnik's brilliance After his loss to Ivanchuk in the fifth round, Vladimir Kramnik struck back to win the best game of the Las Palmas tournament so far, against Viswanathan Anand in the sixth. After a complex tactical sequence in the open-Ox04 Oe4 Oe1+ Oe1+ Oe1+ Oe1+ Oe1+ ing. Kramnik traded in his queen for rook and bishop and a powerful passed pawn in the centre. Having successfully evaded Black's attempts to force a draw by perpetual check. White was in a position to force the promotion of his passed pawn. The game proved a pleasant contrast to the aura of caution and high mutual respect that has characterised many other games in this elite competition.

Diagram of final position Z. 1764 White: Vladimir Kramnik Black: Viswanathan Anand T WAR Las Palmas, December 1996 ☐ Raymond Keene writes on chest

Monday to Friday in Sport and in

stable after six rounds at Las Palmas

In the above table, 1 represents a win, 1/2 a draw and 0 a loss

WANNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Perez - Lee. correspondence, 1995. White has sacrificed a bishop to weaken the black king. Can you see how he now made the most of his opponent's lack of king protection and his own

Whitaker leads the

revamped parade

EQUESTRIANISM

By JENNY MACARTHUR

JOHN WHITAKER, the highest ranked Bridsh rider, and his three Olympic team-mates, Nick Skelton, Geoff Billington and Michael Whitaker, head the home entry for the 25th Olympia International Show Jumping Champion-ships, which begin today in The Grand Hall, Olympia. The show, the brainchild of

the late Raymond Brooks-Ward, is set for a bumper week. Sponsorship has doubled: the prize-money has been increased to £220,000; the BBC, which ended its nightly broadcast two years ago, is returning to cover the Volvo World Cup qualifier on Saturday and six out of the ten performances are already sold out. In the inaugural year Brooks-Ward went out into Kensington High Street to give away ockets.

The show's success is based on a mix of serious showjumping and fun events. While Lorenzo, the flying Frenchman, and the Shetland Pony grand national help to take care of the latter, the international showjumpers taking part include Germany's two Olympic team gold medal-winners, Ludger Beerbaum, winner of the Olympia World Cup qualifier last year, and Franke Slootheak, the world champion.

The Ireland entry includes Peter Charles, the European champion. Brazil are sending Rodrigo Pessoa, the Olympic learn bronze medal-winning rider whose father, Nelson. won the first Olympia Puissance in 1972. Jordan have their first representative at the show in Princess Haya Bint Al-Husain, the daughter of King Husain. The powerful Outch contingent is led by Jos

1994 World Cup. John Whitaker, whose children Robert and Louise compete in this afternoon's Petplan Family Pairs Relay, has never won the Olympia qualifier but, with two onform horses from which to choose, he could be Britain's best hope. He will ride either Welham, on which he won the Berlin qualifier fast month and was runner-up in the Geneva Grand Prix last weekend, or Grannusch who won the grand prix in Maastricht

three weeks ago. Whitaker, who is joint 25th in the Western League — from which the top 19 qualify for the World Cup final in April will decide between the two later in the week. Skelton, the winner of the World Cup last year, has no doubts about his ride for Saturday. He will again partner Dollar Girl in an anempt to reverse last year's result when Beerbaum relegated him to second place by one-hundreth of a second. Michael Whitaker, still

without his two top horses Two Step and Midnight Madness, will confinue his partnership with Ashley, on which he was runner-up in the Millstreet Grand Prix in Ireland last month. Billington's sights are set on tomorrow night's inaugural Vink Christmas Masters, a competition in which the fences - and the prize-money - are raised each

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RADIO CHOIGE

'Such defeats

are treats

for us all'

Be a good sport and laugh with the best

ith the year on its last knockings and the new year already filled with talk about the televising of A Dance to the Music of Time, this might be the last moment for years in which it is intellectually respectable to quote Anthony Powell.

Which brings us to Widmerpool's overcoat. As Powell hands us this early clue about the extraordinary nature of his man, he explains that this singular and in-

appropriate garment was "recognised almost immediately as a traditionally ludicrous aspect of everyday life". A perfect phrase.

There are faint echoes of pantomime, of the commedia dell'arte behind Powell's Dance; and there are echoes of pantomime everywhere in sport. Sport fulfils our need for triumph and disaster, but it cannot do so without also becoming a traditionally ludicrous aspect of everyday life.

ti is a poor person that does not enjoy the triumphs and disasters of the sporting round; in the same way. it is perhaps a still more impoverished soul that fails to take pleasure in the flagrantly preposterous nature

Take the England cricket team. It has become one of those staples of

of both Wednesday and Manhester United that a far more significant sporting event is taking place in Sheffield tonight than their meeting in the FA Carling Premier-

ship. Just down the road from Hillsborough, at the Sheffield Arena,

the Great Britain ice hockey team plays Switzerland in a qualifying

match for the 1998 winter Olympic

the gold medal 60 years ago, but last

qualified for the Games in 1948. Since then, the sport's stay in outer dark-ness has been broken by occasional

new dawns, its survival sustained --

as is the way with minority sports -

by the fanatical support of a few, who believe that an all-consuming national passion for their sport is just

However, the fact that the best British player of his generation will not be in action tonight is a reflection

of how little the game has moved on

Tony Hand has not represented his

GROUP A

country for two years, his disillusion

prompted by the flood of Canadian

players swamping the game at club and international level. Of the

22-man squad that has taken Britain

to the verge of qualification, only a third have been born and raised here. The rest are dual citizens, who were

either born in Britain and moved to Canada early in their lives, or born

and brought up in Canada, claiming a place on the British team through

"There are too many imported players," Hand has said. "It is very

hard for junior players to come

through the ranks, and that is sad."

But while Hand can understand the

need for clubs in the newly-formed

Superleague to buy instant success.

he feels that the national team should

This is not just ice hockey's

problem, of course. Lennox Lewis

was born in East Ham, but moved to

Canada in childhood before return-

ing to the land of his birth to box for

Britain. Greg Rusedski qualified to

play tennis in the Davis Cup because his mother was born in Dewsbury

and he had lived with his girlfriend in

Purley for three years. But when the

their parents' nationality.

mean what it says.

Victory would take Britain closer to Olympic participation than at any time in the past 40 years. Britain won

Games in Nagano, Japan,

around the corner.

in the past 30 years.

focus for stock humour as the mother-in-law jokes of the pantomine comic. After all, the England team members are the best cricketers that England possess.

Oh no they're not! Oh yes they are! And that last response, the truth, is the best and cruellest punch line. Amusing enough at home, abroad the England cricket team turns into the funniest show in sport, the

humour more acute for the fact that the participants seem unaware of it.

Look behind you. here come Mashonaland! Such jokes as England's defeat by this mighty cricketing

cnuty are surely the lifeblood of sport. We in newspapers do our best to add to the galety by listing "England's worst ten peformances overseas": yes, remember defeat by Holland? Such moments are treats for us all and need to be recalled every once in a while, for the simple pleasure of it. Old jokes are, after all, the best jokes.

Rugby union has always been an area rich in unconscious humour. The political wranglings of the past year have been consistently hilarious: how splendid of the chaps to cap it all with a memorable match against Argentina. Which of us did not feel a SIMON BARNES



Midweek View

frisson of disappointment when England spoilt the last act of the panto by

iust — winning? Football is not a sport to spare us low comedy. The tale of Emerson and his wife's extraordinary preference for the Copacabana over Teesside has provided much pleasure. Indeed, the whole Middlesbrough saga has been full of delights.

Wimbledon, of course, bave long been a traditionally ludicrous aspect of football and it is a part they play for all they are worth. Their present dizzy ranking in the Premiership is

Andrew Longmore on a Canadian flavour to Britain's Olympic bid

'Imports' put accent on national pride

Vinnie Jones to paint the lily. The old pantomime villain of sport

has been busy hamming up his own role. His latest exploit has been to insult his own team-mates, a nice move when team spirit and Jones's leadership are the best things Wimbledon have going for them.

The thing about pantomime is that it can change in a moment from ludicrous menace to abject sentimentality. So now we have Jones back in his

heart-of-gold diamond geezer mode, asking forgiveness from everyone in sight. Yes, Vinnie is a reformed character. Again.

There is also a tale doing the rounds about the player who went to Southampton because the manager, Graeme Souness, was swayed by a telephoned recommendation from George Weah, the AC Milan megastar, no less.

Ali Dia got a game as a sub (for Matthew Le Tissier, no less), but has since been accused of being an imposter, along with the telephoning pseudo-Weah. Souness wears his custard pie manfully while Dia is protesting his innocence - and hoping for a trial with Carlisle

There is scarcely an aspect of sport

This is true even of sport's grimmest moments. The death of Ayrton Senna was indeed a dreadful thing but sport, even at its most serious, cannot altogether dispense with its burden of preposterousness.

So the Italian legal system has landed with all its pomp on the sport of motor racing. The terrible event of the crash is now set about with a kind of opera buffa, a black farce of lawyers and sporting

millionaires which is

the more painfully absurd for the black horror that inspired it.

Perhaps, this being

the pantomime sea-

'Look behind you, here come Mashonaland'

son, this column should make a joke. What is black and brown and looks good on a lawyer? A Dobermann. Ho. ho. Sport is glorious, heartlifting, ennobling: and patently absurd. If it were not absurd, we would not bother with it. Sport enriches us, not in spite of but because of its utter

triviality. Sport is preposterous or it is

nothing. Those who cannot see the glory and the delight of sport are Philistines. But those that cannot delight in sport as a traditionally ludicrous aspect of everyday life are worse. They lack humour and to lack humour is to lack

Silent night, Burns's night

Toasting the Lassies. Radio 2.9.00pm.

Utterly charming, Gill Bowman's one-woman show featuring the love songs of Robbie Burns is, at 30 minutes, far, far, too short, and her audience far, far too unresponsive. Could it be possible, I asked myself, that they had taken a vow of silence? Bowman imagines a dinner party that an Edinburgh merchant's wife is giving in Burns's honour. While she awaits his arrival one night in 1796 — as Burns scholars will not need reminding, the date is a fateful one—she chats and sines her way through an account of the noet's amornus activities. and sings her way through an account of the poet's amorous activities. I felt my eyes growing moist as she sang her own arrangement of Auld acquaintance to a small guitar. This alone would explain why Toasting the Lassies was such a hit at the 1994 Edinburgh Festival.

Candy is Dandy". Radio 4, 7,20pm.

"But liquor is quicker". That is how Ogden Nash completes the line in the title of Rossell Davies's feature about the great American rhymser. Would anyone else have dared rhyme cuticle with flutickle? Or shower the control of the score of tickle? Or shrewdly state such a universal truth as "The song of canaries' never varies"? And what about the question most of us will have considered at some time in our lives yet left it to Nash to enunciate: "God in his wisdom made the fly/ and then forgot to tell us why?" As for enunciate: why"? As for epigrams, would not even Oscar Wilde have been proud to have penned this one: "Progress is great — but it's gone on too

7.00am Chris Evanssuur Delium megu-12.00 Lisa l'Angon 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodler, includes the Chart Hour and at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session, with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamaco 9.00 Z Magazine, with news features and Interviews 10.00 Mark Radolffie, live from Manchester 42.00 Claims Stumbers: includes at 12.00 Claire Sturgers, includes at 12.15mm The Nat 4.00 Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kannedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 2.00 Ed Slewert 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Jim Lloyd, with Folk on 2 9.00 The Inner Temple (4/4) 6.30 Digance. Cornedy in song with Richard Digance (4/5) 9.00 Toesting the Lassies See Choice 9.30 Carlo Curley, Pevarotti of the Organ (1/4) 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Marches 3.00 Abry Jector.

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00mm Morning Reports, and at 5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00 The Breeklast Programme, and at 6.55, 7.55 cacing preview 8.35 The Magazine, with Diana Madiff. 12.00 Midday with Malr, Incl at 12.35pm Moneycheck 2.05 Riuscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, Incl at 7.20 Sports Bulletin 7.35 Trevor Brooking's Football Night. Sheffield Wadnesday v Manchester United 10.05 The Baker Line 11.00 Night Extra, with Valerié Sanderson Includes at 11.15 The Finerical World Torkhit 12.05am After Financial World Tonight 12.05em After

TALK RADIO 5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr 7.00 Paul Rose 9.00 Scott Chisholm

12.00 Philip Hodson 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Soorts

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. News on the hour 5.30 mp Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 Discovery 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Concert Hall 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Andy Kershaw 9.45 Sports Foundup 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Off the Shelf 11.30 Pick of the World 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Composer of the Month 2.05 Cuttook 2.30 Megamix 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Concert Hall 4.15 World Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 Britain Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.30 Discovery 7.01 Sports Roundup 6.30 Discovery 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Multi-track 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 British Today 9.30 Mendian On Screen 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.10 Science View 11.15 Roundup 11.10 Science view 71.15
Country Style 11.30 Multitrack 12.30am
From Our Own Correspondent 12.45
Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.55 Words
of Felth 2.30 Assignment 3.15 Sport
3.30 Meridien Books 4.30 Europe Today

4.00mm Mark Griffiths 6.00 Mike Read (Violin Colocation No.2 in 5 metro), opposition of the color of the co 216); Brahms (Symphony No 2 in D minor, Op 73) 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00ent Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Nicky Home 7.00 Pgul Coyte (FIM) / Robin Banks (AM) 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00em Randat Lee Rose

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor, Induced Haydn (Mass in B flet, Creetion); Mayer! (The Forgotten Forest); Bach (Tho Sonata In E milnor, BWV528); Takemitsu (Faribasma-Cantos); Boyce (Symphony No 3 in C); Mussongsky, orch Ravel

(Pictures at an Exhibition) 8.50 An Advent Calendar 9.00 Morning Collection. Includes Brahms (Tragic Overture); Mendelssohn (Sk Songs without Words, Op 28 (Book 3]; Haydn (String Quartet in C, Op 76 No 1,

10.00 Musical Encounters. Includes Handel (Minuet, Water Music); Handel (Sing unto God); Mozart (Oboe Quartet in F, K370); Bruckner (Fantasy in G); Gottlified von Enem (String Querter No 1); Elgar (Overture Alassio); Somervett (A Shropshire Lad); Warlock (I Saw a Fair

Maden); 12.00 Composers of the Week Emest Chausson and Heari

Emest Chausson and Her Duperc

1.00pm News; Birminghem Lunchtime Concert. Paul Whelan, bertone, Julius Drake, plano. Ravel (Cinq Melodies Populaires Grecques); Duparc (Pridyle; La Manoir de Rosemonde; Chanson Triste; La Ve Anterieure: La Vacue et la

Chanson Triste; Le Vie
Anterieure; La Vague et la
Cloche); Elena Firsova (No,
Not a Migraine); Ravel (Don
Quichotte a Ducinee)
2.00 Mildweek Cholos, with Susan
Sharpe, Includes Dohnamyi
(Passacagile); Elgar (Violin
Sonata in E minor, Op 82);
Hante (Symphony No 6)

4.00 Choral Evensong. Live from Birmingham Cathedral 5.00 The Music Machine

Nicholas, includes Verdi, an Mackerras (Tarantella (The Lady and the Foot); Gabriell (Canzon per sonare No 1, La oridate); Morart (Clares) Concerto in A. K622)

Concerto ri A, Nozzi
7.30 A Grand, Mysterious
Harmony, An exploration into
the symphonic legacy of
Anton Bruckner a century after his death (12/14) 9,10 Femmes de Siècle: Food as a Female Fetish. With Susie

a Fermaie Fetish. With Susie Orbach, Fay Weldon and Nicola Berker 9.35 Robert Cohen cello, Elizabeth Burley, piano. Fauré (Après un Rève, Op 7, No1; Papillon, Op 77); Rozsa (Duo, On 8) Op 8) 10.00 Voices, lain Burnside

10.00 Volcee. Iain Burnside introduces a recital of Sibelius songs given lest October at the Wigmore Hall, London, by Finnish beritone Jorma Hymninen and planist like Peananen. Includes The First Kiss; The Tryst; Theodora; Astray, Driftwood; To Evening Was It a Dream?

10.45 Night Waves. From the egoteric arts of the artiquarian cookbook to the cutting-edge style of designer restaurants, Humphrey Carpenter teles a seasonal look at the culture of lood and

look at the culture of lood and

feasting
11.30 Composer of the Week:
Simposon (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Flobert
Aliman talks about his new
film Kansas City, and Steve
Voce talks to Oscar Peterson
1.00 Through the Night

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 41 CARRAGEEN

(b) A type of porplish-red, edible seaweed found in the North Atlantic, and used for making soup and a kind of blanemange, and also as an emolsifying and gelling agent. Also called *Irish moss*. "You have excelled yourself, yet again, Hortense. There is no other description for your surprise podding than the purest PREE

(b) A meadow. From the French prée, Latin prâtum, prâtu. "Io a Writ the generali shall be put before the speciali: as land before pree, pasture, wood, iuneary, marish, &c." RICHARDINE

(a) A kind of apple. From the Old French richars, elliptical for pommes de Richard, so named, according to Benoit, from Richard, Duke of Normandy. "Grafte the graftes of an apple tree upon a sowre peare and upon the Richardine apple tree, and you shall have apples of a yellow or straw colour."

(c) In law, an answer made by a defendant to rebut a plaintiff's surrejoinder. "Of all the several Pleas, Rebutters, Surrebutters &c, the Public were made Judges by the Favour of the Press."

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1, Qe6 Nd8; 2, Qf7+! Nxf7; 3, Neo checkmare,

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Prices of the Books of the Concinent of

Hand, left, the best British ice hockey player of his generation, has not represented his country for two years because of the "overseas players" policy

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whole national team speaks with a Canadian accent, it is not surprising that a few eyebrows are raised.

Replying to criticism levelled against the policy by Norman de Mesquita, ice hockey correspondent of The Times, Peter Woods, the Great Britain coach, wrote in the Basingstoke Bison programme: "You do not have any concept what it means to be committed to a cause and chase a dream. I was born in Canada, my parents, brother and sister were all born in the UK. I have lived in Europe the past six years and I'm extremely proud of my British heritage. I get shivers when t hear the national anthem, I like driving on the

ANDORRA

AUSTRIA

Kitz-bühei

Obergurg

FRANCE

Avortaz

Tignes

ITALY

Cervinia

Continua

Livigno

Mürren

SWITZERLAND

right-hand side of the road, I eat fish and chips and drink afternoon tea. "If the British national team quali-

fies for the Nagano Olympics, it will have the same impact that Torvill and Dean had on the explosion of ice skating." Should Britain beat Switzerland

and, as they should, qualify for one of the remaining places in Nagano by finishing in the top five of an eightteam elimination tournament in February, the benefits to the sport would extend way beyond the £500,000 Olympic grant from the Sports

"You can't begin to wonder how much higher the profile of the sport

SNOW REPORTS

Conditions Runs to

Piste Off/p resort

50 good varied fair (Good skiing; all pistes open)

(Pistes above mid-stations skiring well, 39 of 60 lifts open)
5 70 good varied closed fine 3 2/12
(All lifts and rurs open; generally good skiring)

70 170 good varied good lair (Vary good piste sking; him snow) 35 60 lair vaned lair sun 1 (Some royfrerd patches developing; all litts open)

125 150 good varied good lair (Good sking on most pistes) 80 120 good varied good sun (Good sking on open runs) 90 200 good varied good sun (Great piste sking, particularly above 1.800 metres)

15 200 good varied good (Superb sking conditions; bright sunshine)

100 240 good varied good (Excellent skiing conditions)

(00 170 good varied good to (Vary good skiing on majority of open pistes) 60 120 good varied good fir (All lits open; generally excellent skiing)

40 100 good varied good tir (Plenty of good skiing: snow heavy low down)

Source. Ski Club of Great Britato L - lower slopes; U - upper, art - artificial.

120 250

20 250 good crusty good sun -3 14/12 (Very good sking an well-groomed pistes) 20 90 good varied art fine 2 13/12 od sking an pistes above 1,500 metres; firm snow) 240 nood varied good fine -1 14/12

would be on television and in the press," Joanne Collins, the secretary of the Ice Hockey Players' Association, said.

"We could set up a proper coaching structure, pay for more ice time and develop more British players. Ideally, the coach would like to play with a true blue-blooded British team, but that's not going to happen in the next ten years.

Alex Dampier, the Canadian-born dual national who has been the most successful coach in British ice hockey over the past 20 years, has seen the story from both sides. During his time as coach of the Britain team, he was restricted by official or unofficial

quotas on Canadian-born players. He has also been instrumental in the development of the best of the British players, from Hand to David Longstaff, the most talented of the new crop of home-grown players.

"Players like David have been

stretched by having to compete so much harder for places," he said. "Before, they were almost guaranteed a place in a club team because of the restrictions on imports. A lot of the guys on the national team were born here and have just come back, so I can understand why they get angry about the criticism. Some, I have to say, didn't know Edinburgh from Pittsburgh."

SAILING

Storms and injury delay Time & Tide

By Edward Gorman, sailing correspondent

weeks' time.

A MEMBER of the disabled crew on board the BT Global Challenge yacht, Time & Tide, has been confined to his bunk with splints on his leg after a fall in the cockpit as the boat was being swept by winds of up to 60 knots.

Brendan West, an amoutee who lost a leg in a car crash while serving with the Army in Germany, joined the race in Rio de Janeiro and is thought to have fallen badly on Monday when another crew member collided with him in the cockpit. His good leg - which was rebuilt using metal pins after his accident in 1979 - is now causing him considerable pain around the knee.

Yesterday Time & Tide. which was in thirteenth position, was due to rendezvous with 3Com, which was just a few miles ahead of her, so that extra painkillers could be

transferred to keep West comfortable until he arrives in Wellington in about two

At the head of the fleet Mike Golding's Group 4 and Andy Hindley's Save The Children had opened up a gap on the chasing pack, led by Merfyn Owen on Global Teamwork, about 50 miles astern. Golding is again in the lead but there is little to choose between him and Hindley, both of whom have around 2,000 miles still to sail to Wellington.

The tough conditions are continuing to tire the crews and test their patience. On Ocean Rover, languishing in tenth position and not showing the speed in heavy weather that her crew had claimed, there were winds of 50 knots across the deck yesterday.

Latest positions, page 40

Memman. Mrs Tennyson gets a surprise from her daughter's boylnend, who is spending Christmas with them. Read by Julia

5.55em Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Todey 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Midweek (FM), with Times columnist Libby

with Times columnist Libby
Purves and guests
9.00 Test Martch Special:
Zimbabwe v England (LW).
Coverage from Bulawayo
10.00 News; A Good Reed (FM).
A new Rerary series with Mark
Lawson
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour (FM).
Introduced by Jenni Murray.
Winter Warmers: a nch lemb
dish — person's venison.

dish — parson's venison. 10.30 Test Match Special (LW) 11.30 Gardeners' Question Time 11.30 Gerdeners' Question Time (FM) (r) 12.00 News; You and Yours (FM), with Lesley Riddoch 12.25pm King Street Junior (FM), by Jim Eldridge. Starting Karl Howman and James Grout (4/8) 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick

Clarke 1.07 Test Match Special (LW) 1.40 The Archors (FM) (r) 1.55

Shipping
2.00 News; Victoria Station II
(FM); by Steve Chambers.
With Sean Baker, Christopher
Scott and Gawin Muir (4/4) 2.45 Treasure Islands (FM), Presented by Michael Rosen

Presented by Michael Rosen.
Last in the series
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift,
with Daire Brehan
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope.
Paul Gambaccini sees Danny
De Vito's version of the Roeld
Dahl story Mathida
4 45 Short Story: A Goose for
Christmas, by Catherine

sleep (r)

9.00 Flesh Tones, Harry
Thompson looks at the work of the artist's model (r) 9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The

Great Pursuit, by Tom Sharps. Read by Wille Rushton (8/10) 11.00 Goodness Gracious Me (r) 11.30 Date with Fate (FM), by Phil

Four programmes examining what the points of the

compass mean to us (3/4) Perchance to Dream. An exploration of the latest

research from the world of

Whelans and Gary Parker. A man is trapped by a little white Se (1/4)

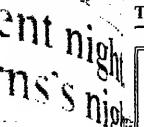
11.45 The Joys of Yiddish (FM) (r)

11.30 Today in Parlament (LW)

12.00 News incl 12.27em approx

Weather 12.30 The Late Book: Mikinight Tates (3/5) (r) 12.48 Shipping 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720, RADIO 5 LIVE MW 683, 909, WORLD SERVICE MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089.Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Jan Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara



THE TIMES WEDNESDAY DECLIVIDED IN THE TIMES WEDNESDAY DECLIVED IN THE TIMES WEDNESDAY DECLIV

go with his fashionable flattop. Instead, Berry had to go 12 rounds with the charmless Respect (ITV) from Richard La Plante, who seems to have been watching too

many Rocky videos. The result? Well, straight round to the Broadcasting Standards people for starters. A scene that involved a head-butt, a cosh and a full-blooded kick to the groin had no place in a drama that started before the 9 o'clock watershed. Quite pointlessly, the producers have played straight into Nanny

Bottomley's hands. The scene also had no place in a script that sought to be taken seriously. Were we really supposed to believe that having just been beaten up, a known drug dealer would be straight round to the police shouting "it was him, it was that

boxing gym and do you know? He never heard from that nasty. armed and dangerous drug dealer again. Just like real life, then.

Watching Respect was like signing up for serial disappointment. It had a strong cast, it looked great and Berry's new haircut had opened up a whole range of dramatic possibilities; and yet time and again it all came to a halt as the script had a bit of a rethink or lobbed in superfluous sentiment.

Every now and then a new character would appear — in no apparent purpose. Suddenly, Carr-bad a brother. Suddenly, the bro-ther had a girlfriend. Suddenly, we were having to listen to dialogue such as: "You look like you've seen a ghost?" "I've only heard Trevor Nye planning a ram raid." . Then there was the problem of

taking drugs and robbing building societies, the next he was back in the ring again. It was the same with Carr's predictably estranged wife, Rosie (Jayne Ashbourne), who attacked her predictably misunderstood husband first for taking another fight and then for planning to take a dive in it without pausing for breath.

there were pluses. The box-ing scenes were as good as I've seen on television; Berry and Ashbourne turned in decent performances as the eventually reunited Carrs and Carol Harrison was excellent as Rosie's nononsense mum, Veronica. Yup. that's all of them.

A similar plague of non sequitions affected The Seventh Wonder Much of the fascination of the World (BBCZ) but to far less stemmed from simple jaw-drop-



damaging effect. One minute it was a particular inscription that would confirm that the huge pieces of stone littering the bottom of Alexandria harbour were the re-mains of the lighthouse of Pharos, the next it was two giant statues of Mr and Mrs Prolemy II. Is didn't matter, because this was a quite

moved among the divers, it picked out a sphinx here, a colossus there and bits of obelisk all over the

place. Spellbinding. Believing that what we were being shown was the remains of the lighthouse rather than some flooded architectural salvage yard was still a big step, especially after it became clear that some of the stonework was a thousand years too old. Only here, I suspect, could the deciphering of 3,000-year-old hieroglyphics spell disappointment. R-A-M ... Rameses 11.

But the French archaeologists were sure flighthouses, after all, spell headlines and headlines spell more research funds) and called upon their British colleague, Honor Frost, to confirm their findings. For having gently led us to believe been done before - 30 years ago. by Frost and an Egyptian diver-They had even raised a statue -Mrs Ptolemy as it turned out, Now came the opportunity to see the husband's statue, in situ on the seahed.

Trost may be 75 but she was in her wet-suit and underwater before you could say sphinx. In a film short of hard archaeological evidence, this was one of many magical moments that made up

There will be those who saw Network First Conspicuous Con-sumption (ITV) as a hatcher job, an own goal scored by the guilible management of Harvey Nichols,

the department store. But not 1. Shopping is a fundamentally silly occupation and shopping in that is Harvey Nicks, "where luxalso — the weeks before Christmas notwithstanding — a hugely enjoyable occupation and on no account to be taken seriously.

Put something on and friends really do say: "it's horrible...no. horrible is too strong a word". Browse through a rail and you do find yourself saying "that's the exact T-shirt I need for the summer, except I want it in white". True, I have never found myself saying: You've got to stick with the nood, it's got to be nood ... you've got the wrong nood." but that's because I don't wear

tights and I'm not American. I liked Nick Lord's film but I'd have liked it even more if he'd had a bit more material to fil (his allotted hour. One thing they do teach you at Harvey Nicks - never

6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (30298) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (94395) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (1760418)

9.20 STYLE CHALLENGE (4643437) 9.45 KILROY (6479586) 10.30 CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK with Ainsley Harriott (30012) 11.00 NEWS and weather (3162470)

11.05 THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW Consumer advice (5163383) 11.45 SMILLIE'S PEOPLE (5337514) 12.00 NEWS (1) and weather (4870447) 12.05pm POLICE RESCUE (T) (8063234) 12.55 THE WEATHER SHOW (35627505) 1.00 NEWS (T) and weather (64654)

1.30 REGIONAL NEWS (T) (36870834) 1.40 NEIGHBOURS (1) (29513470) 2.00 Call. My Bluff (9857) 2.30 A Week in the Country (876) 3.00 incognito (1692) 3.30 ANTS IN YOUR PANTS (5784418) 3.50 Chucklevision (5764654) 4.10 Get Your Own Back (T) (1601692) 4.35 The Queen's Nose (T) (7497505) 5.00 Newsround (T) (5055166) 5.10 Blue

Peter, includes an interview with Danny DeVito (1) (8357673) 5.35 NEIGHBOURS (r) (T) (207050). 6.00 NEWS (1) and weather (505) **6.30 REGIONAL NEWS (857)**

7.00 SMALL TALK Last in series (1) (3673) 7.30 HERE AND NOW Sue Lawley and the learn present more investigations and profiles of people maiding the news, Last n sedes (1) (741)

#8.00 HOW DO THEY DO THAT? In the last of the series, Earmonn Holmes and Esther McVey reveal some of the surprising objects that have been used to create sound effects for BBC programmes (1)

8.50 POINTS OF VIEW (1) (509418) 9.00 NEWS (T), regional-news and weather

9.30 THE X FILES: JA Outer Space Scully recounts the story, about a leenage girl who claims to have had an encounter with allens to a famous author who is researching a book about the alleged incident in Klass County, Washington (1) (202771) WALES Political Broadcast: Plaid Cymru 9.35 The X Files 10.20 Kana's Wales 10.50 Harry Entield and Churns 11.20 Birth of Horror 1.45 FILM: Countess Dracula 3.20 News

10.15 HARRY ENFIELD AND CHUMS Last in series (r) (T) (423925) NIGHTMARE: THE BIRTH OF HORROR — Dracula

Christopher Frayling explores the back-ground to Bram Stoker's creation (1) (B4641B) 11.35 FRANKENSTEIN — THE TRUE STORY Concluding the two-part adaptation of Mary Shelley's classic tale

starring James Mason (1) (864470) 1.10am FILM: Countess Dracula (1970) starring Ingrid Pitt, Nigel Green and Peter ageing Hungarian countess who bathes in virgins' blood to preserve her beauty. Directed by Peter Saady (3787971) 2.40 WEATHER (8896971)

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BBC2 6.00mm OPEN UNIVERSITY: Flight .

Simulators and Robots (7535302) 6.25 Designer Rides (7554437) 6.50 Deadly Significations and Robots (733302) 6.25
Designer Rides (7554437) 6.50 Deadly
Cuanels (8868499) 7.15 See Hear
Breaklast News (2887586) 7.20 The
Legend of Prince Vallent (5708470) 7.50
It'll Newer Work (5719586) 8.15 Fiddley
Foodle Bird (5454673) 8.25 Christopher
Crocodle (5445825) 8.35 The Record
(6345892) 9.00 The Complete Guide to
the 20th Century (1540692) 9.10 The
Village of Jars (5253586) 10.00 Playdays
(2213437) 10.25 The Champions
(8040012) 11.15 The Phil Silvers Show
(1272900) 11.40 Flash Gordon's Trip to
Mars (2082447) 12.00 Operation Survival
(52234) 12.30pm Working Lunch (80505)
1.00 Christopher Crocodile (82048944)
1.05 Fiddley Foodle Bird (9951925)
1.15 FILM: The Wicked Lady (1945; b/w)
Swashbuckling tale with Margaret
(20804012) 3.55 News (6719878) 4.00
Today's the Day (470) 4.30 Ready,
Steady, Cook (654) 5.00 The OprahWintrey Show (4486673) 5.40 Mary Berry
(689091) 5.55 Turning Points (599168)
WALES; Plaid Cymru Broadcast WALES: Plaid Cymru Broadcast

6.00 STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

6.45 BOLLYWOOD OR BUSTI The final of the quiz on Bombay's film Industry (787418) 7.30 FROM THE EDGE (1) (383) ;. 8.00 TRUST ME, I'M A DOCTOR Should we

add folic add or vitamin B to flour to prevent heart disease and strokes? Last in series (1) (8073) 8.30 OPEN RHODES Gary gives a master-class to four young RAF cooks (1) (9470)



Protest merch on Merseyside (9pm)

MODERN TIMES: The Filckering Flame Ken Loach champions the cause of the dismissed Liverpool dockers (1) (716857)

ENTERPRISE CULTURE REVISITED: Making a shout entrepreneurs we catch up with David McCann and David Alkinson to see how their businesses are faring in the 1990s (T) (594383) 10.30 NEWSNIGHT (T) (388079)

11.15 LOOKING FOR TAT (286168) 11.25 HIS FATHER'S SONG (299296) 11.50 THE HISTORY MAN (628079) 12.00 THE MIDNIGHT HOUR (57838) 12.30em THE LEARNING ZONE Open

University: Powers of the President (88426) 1.30 Global Firms in the ising East (18068) 2.00 Believing: The Long Search/Faith to Faith (98249) 4.00 BBC Focus: English Heritage (92161) 4.30 Modern Apprenticeships (82155) 5.00 Health and ety at Work (30258) 5.30 The Adviser

CHOICE Modern Times: The Flickering Flame

BBC2, 9.00pm lo September 1995 more than 300 Liverpool dockers were sacked for refusing to cross a picket line. More than a year later they are still idle while their work is done by nonunion labour. In law they have a weak case. Their union, the Transport and General Workers, has been reluctant to get involved in an unofficial dispute. But the men have found a champion in Ken Loach, a filmmaker from unreconstructed Old Labour. His documentary charting the progress of the dispute crackles with Liverpudlian working dass anger. In Loach's account the struggle is about employers wanting to go back to the bad old days of casual labour when men were hired by the day and had no constitute to make the appartial statute with crock

security. It may be a partial view but since the film's twin villains, the TGWU and the

employers, both declined to be interviewed it has to go unchallenged. Enterprise Culture Revisited: Making a Millioo BBC2, 9.50pm

In the booming 1980s two disciples of Thatcherism set out to make their fortune and both worked punishingly long hours to earn it. Dave McCann, a no-nonsense Londoner, sold pub games and office equipment and ran a shoeshine business. Io Cumbria haulier David Alkinson made his Combria haulier David Alkinson made his money selling Take District rocks as ornamental garden stone. Television featured them both at the height of their success in 1989. Now the cameras return to see how the pair have survived the chill 1990s. Both were hit badly when the boom ended. Atkinson wisely diversified into general haulage. Ever inventive, McCam runs a hotel in Margate for the overweight called, wait for it, Fany Towers. Both are still driven by the spirit of the 1980s, but now admit that there is more to life than money.

Nightmare: The Birth of Horror BBC1; 10.45pm

an unlikely source. Abraham (Bram) Stokes was a pillar of late Victorian respectability who would probably have been appalled to hear Dracula discussed as a parable of repressed sexual desire. Christopher Frayling enjoys the irony that the book appeared in the same year, 1997, as Sigmund Freud started to research in earnest. Frayling's account of the genesis of Drucula reaches back far into the 19th century before following the six-year gestation of the book with the help of Stoker's papers and diaries. The Germans were the first to film the Dracula story, in the 1920s, but without asking permission. Stoker's widow sued and tried to have the prints destroyed. It was only which there have now been more than 200.

Pond Life Channel 4, 11-25pm

The scheduling of Candy Guard's witty animation continues to dely reason. So far it has gone out far too early for an adult, though by no means offensive, show. Now, has gone out far too early for an adult, though by no means offensive, show. Now, for the two final episodes, it goes out absurdly late. Admittedly one of the two sees poor Dolly, the permanent non-achiever, going to the Glastonbury Festival, getting high on drugs, taking off her clothes and using less than circumspect language. But this is only a cartoon. And tonight's other adventure in which Dolly takes her driving adventure, in which Dolly takes her driving test and makes a predictable hash of it, is give or take an expletive or two, not far removed from family viewing. Let us hope there is another series — Pond Life is sharp enough to deserve one — and that this time it

6.00mm GMTV (7792505) 8.25 CAPTAIN SIMIAN AND THE SPACE MONICEYS (4637876)

9.50 STEP BY STEP (2688673) 10.20 NEWS (3583586) 10.25 REGIONAL NEWS (3582857)

10.30 FILM: A Stranger in the Mirror (1992) starring Christopher Pturnmer in a tale of fove, rivalry and betrayat (23250586) 12.10pm CARTOON (9210586) 12.20 REGIONAL NEWS (2975811)

12.30 NEWS (T) and weather (9518050) 12.55 SHORTLAND STREET (9593741) 1.25 Coronalion Street (r) (7) (7102334) 2.00 Home and Away (1) (60513924)

2.25 FILM: A Morn For Christmus (1990) starring Otivia Newton-John, Fantasy about a department-store mannequin that comes to life and fulfils a young girl's wish. Concludes tomorrow (9254499) 3.20 NEWS (1) (7916760)

3.25 REGIONAL NEWS (7915031) 3.30 TOTS TV (8703883) 3.40 The Singing Kettle News (1098654) 3.50 Animariacs (r) (T) (8808429) 4.05 The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat (2819302) 4.15 Fentomost (T) (1895031) 4.40 Art Attack

Christmas Cracker (T) (1678505) 5.10 WHEEL OF FORTUNE (7172673) 5,40 NEWS (T) and weather (723673) 5.00 HOME AND AWAY (r) (T) (839296) 6.25 HTV NEWS (1) (461708) 7.00 SPORTSWEEK (8741)



Ken and Denise meet in court (7.30pm)

7.30 CORONATION STREET It's the Ken Barlow v Denise Osbourne clash at County Court (1) (437)

8.00 DES O'CONNOR TONIGHT with guests Gloria Estelan, Boyzone, Joe Pasquale and Portuguese singing sensation Tony Ferrino (aka comic Steve Coogan) (6499) 9.00 FILM: Quicksand - No Escape (1991) staming Donald Sutherland and Tim Matheson. A woman hires a detective to spy on her husband, whom she suspects of having an affair. But the corrupt private eye sees an opportunity for blackmail. Directed by Michael Pressman. Con-cludes after the News (T) (9963)

10.00 NEWS (T) and weather (57789) 10 30 REGIONAL NEWS (3829203) 10.40 Fit.M: Quicksand - No Escape Conclusion (648963)

11.20 SWIFT JUSTICE (165215) 12.20em FILM: Presumed Guilty (1990) with Martin Sheen, Carolyn Keva and Brendan Fraser. The true story of a petry criminal fifteen years in iail for murder (640451) 2.10 CYBER.CAFE (5522277) 2.40 Dear Nick (6534616) 3.40 Sound Bites (95980513) 3.50 Football Extra (r) (3041074) 4.30 Time.. The Place (r) (82109) 5.00 Vitage Show (r) (54884) 5.30 News

As HTV West except 12.55pm HOME AND AWAY (9593741) 1.25 SIMPLY DELICIOUS AT CHRISTMAS

1.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (29527673) 2.20 VANESSA (66913960) 2.50-3.20 OUR HOUSE (3596050) 5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7172673) 6.25 CENTRAL NEWS (461708) 7.00-7.30 WHEEL OF FORTUNE (8741)

11.20 CENTRAL SPORTS SPECIAL (165215) 12.20cm BUSHELL ON THE BOX (4476987) 12.55 Film: THE BLUE IGUANA (333780) 2.35 IN FOCUS (1599161) 3.20 CUSTOMS CLASSIFIED (5133258) 4.05 LATE & LOUD (7721277)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except 12.55 CORONATION STREET (9593741) 1.25 MASTERCRAFT (30144302) 1.55 HOME AND AWAY (21150654) 2.25-3.20 MURDER, SHE WROTE (9254499) 5.10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY (7172673) 6.00 WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (85050) 7.00-7.30 WHEEL OF FORTUNE (8741) 11.20 A SEASON IN THE SUN (165215)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: 12,55 OINOSAURS (9593741) 1.25 HOME AND AWAY (30144302) 1.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (29527673) 2.20 HOPE AND GLORIA (66913960) 2.50-3.20 PERPECTLY PETS (3596050) 5.10 HOME AND AWAY (7172673) 6.00 MERIDIAN TONIGHT (673) 6.30 PUT IT TO THE TEST (925) 7.00-7.30 WHEEL OF FORTUNE (8741) **11.20 THE MERIDIAN MATCH (1652**15)

ANGLIA As HTV West except: 12.55pm CROSS WITS (9593741) 1.25 HOME AND AWAY (30144302) 1.55 JUSTICE OF THE LANO (21150654) 2.25-3.20 OR QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN (9254499) 5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7172673) 6.30 ANGLIA NEWS (925) 7.00-7.30 WHEEL OF FORTUNE (8741) 11.20 MIDWEEK KICK-OFFI (165215)

THE TAX STATE OF THE STATE OF T Starts: 6.30am TAKE FIVE (59234) 7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (87505) 9.00 Film: THE GIRL FROM MARS (51198012) 10.40 WHITE FANG (8841128) 11.10 THE PINK PANTHER (8022447) 11.35 DOG CITY (4202550) 11.55 (802247) TERRYTOONS (1164147) 12.00 HOUSE TO HOUSE (47302) 12.30pm A BOX FULL OF STORIES (75673) 1.00 SLOT METHRIN (80692) 1.30 FBm: TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME (53822963) 3.15 THE MONTEL WILLIAMS SHOW (9328215) 4.00 THE BATTLE FOR RICKETY BRIDGE (166) 4.30 DESPERATELY SEEKING SOMETHING (550) 5.00 5 PUMP (6147) 5.30 COUNTDOWN (302) 6.00 NEWYDDION (453925) 6.05 HENO (840302) 8.35 SION A SIAN (755895) 7.00 POBOL Y CWM (950673) 7.25 CAROLAU O LLANGOLLEN (3765031) 8.30 DARLLEDIAD GWLEIDYDDOL GAN PLAIO CYMRU (581012) 8.35 NEWYDDION (704876) 9.05 WANTED (7505) 10.05 BROOKSIDE (764215) 10.40 BLACK BOX (579234) 11.40 CAROLINE IN THE CITY (540692) 12.10em HOMICIDE: LIFE ON THE STREET (4418428) 1.10 BAD IDEAS OF THE 20TH CENTURY

6.30em TAKE FIVE (59234)

7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (87505) 9.00 FILM: The Girl from Mars (1991) Family sci-fi comedy drama staming Sarah Sawatsky and Edward Albert, Directed by Neil Feamley (51 198012)

10.40 WHITE FANG (6841128) 11.10 The Pink Panther (8022447) 11,35 Dog City (4202550) 11,55 Terrytoons (1164147) 12.00 House to House (47302) 12.20pm A Box Full of Stories (75673) 1.00 Sesame Street (70128) 2.00 John Law and the Mississippi Bubble (70104741)

2.10 FILM: Two Girls and a Sailor (1944, b/w) Musical starring June Allyson, Gloria DeHaven and Van Johnson Directed by Richard Thorpe (82315789)

4.30 COUNTDOWN (550) 5.00 RICKI LAKE(T) (2246321)

5.45 PONO LIFE Animated stroom (T) (734960) 6.00 PARTY OF FIVE (1) (374673)

6.55 FRESH POP (791857) 7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (589963) 7.55 THE SLOT (634383)

8.00 BROOKSIDE Nat is devastated by what Georgia has to say and Jackie plucks up the courage to face the neighbours at the school dance (T) (5031)

8.30 WANTED Three pairs of runners are pursued by trackers who are advised from the studio by a former Soviet spy, an SAS-trained soldier and a former head of the Flying Squad. Last in series (29321) 9.30 FILM: Untamed Heart (1993) Cornedy romance starring Marisa Tomel and Christian Slater. A young man who was

Bill (1) (964963) 11.25 POND LIFE Two episodes of the animated sitcom about a Dolly Pond, a woman trying to escape her dreary life (1) (935586)

born with a heart condition and is a virtual mute takes a job in a diner and becomes



A profile of Quincy Jones (11.55pm)

11.55 LISTEN UP: The Lives of Quincy Jones Among those paying tribute to the legendary musician in this documentary about his life and work are Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Miles Davis, Barbra Streisand and Ray Charles (36589499)

2.00em DISPATCHES (r) (T) (3696242) 2.50 INVISIBLE ENEMIES Every year in New York, 250 babies are born with congenital disappeared years ago. Last in series (r) (T) (6557567)

3.50-5.30 FILM: Banjo on my Knee (1936, b/w) Musical drama staring Barbara Stanwyck and Joel McCrea proom leaves his new wife during the recently killed a man in a brawl Directed

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory.

7.00mm Love Connection (4278215) 7.20
Press Your Luck (4298079) 7.40 Jeopardy.
(3415498) 8.10 Hotel (5860295) 9.00
Another World (1507429) 8.45 The Oprah-Writtery Show (7103321) 10.40 Real TV (4033234) 11.10 Selty Jessy Rephant (3065234) 12.00 Gendido (14586) 1.00pm 1900-234) 12.00 Jenny Jones (20673) 4.00 The Oprah Whitrey Show (49709) 5.00 Shar Train: The Next Generation (8760) 6.00 The Irek: The Next Generation (8760) 5.00 (198 New Adventures of Supermen (62370) 7.00 The Sampsons (6789) 7.30 M*A-5*H (2215). 8.00 Police Stop! 2 (80786) 0.00 The Bible: Samson and Deliah (63876) 11.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (27147) 12.00 The New Adventures of Superman (9684) 1.00mm LAP D. (44074) 1.30 Real TV (84187) a co. 188 Mar. Leng Dies. (601 59) (84180) 2.00 Hit Max Long Play (50156) SKY 2

7.00ppm Star Treic Deep Space Nine (1251234) 8.00 Tekwar (1237654) 9.00 Diess Gray | 1230741) 11.00 Late Show, with David Letterman (1675128) 12.00 FILM: Performance (2077074) 2.00am Hz SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, aeven days a week SKY MOVIES

SKY MOVIES

6.00em Sky Riders (1976) (65654) 8.00
Family Reumion (1993) (65673) 18.00
Family Reumion (1993) (65673) 18.00
Family Reumion (1993) (1956) 12.00 An
American Christmas Carol (1979)
75296) 2.00pm Reverge of the Nerde IV:
Jerds in Love (1954) (6992) 4.00
Jediclard Murders (1994) (3862) 6.00
Footsit: Flight 174 (1953) (19215) 7.30
Flows Week in Review (1933) 8.00
Jedyard Kipling's the Junglet Seek
1964) (59673) 10.00 Leon (1994)
1963) 11.50 Strike a Pose (1933)
2499) 1.20am in Pursuit of Henoter
1965 (1965529) 3.10 The Courboy Way
1964) [14148364]

E MOVIE CHANNEL am The Gypsy Coft (1954) (4249578) Semson and Selly (1980) (6700437)

8.45 Guilleur's Travels (1963) (8334128)
10.10 The Treasure of Pancho Villa
(1955) (79678963) 12.00 Cagany and
Lacey: True Convictions (1965) (\$5186)
2.00pm The Battle of the Villa Flottis
(1965) (85234) 4.00 What Next? (1974)
(32418) 6.00 Samson and Sally (1990)
(1470) 8.00 North (1994) (45470) 8.00
Berendy Hills Cop III (1993) (89505) 11.00
Clucle of Friands (1995) (89505) 11.00
Typon (1995) (152147) 1.40am histore
(1967) (439123) 3.15 Emmosticle II
(1975) (331513) 4.45 The Gypsy Colt
(1954) (82277) (1954) (82277) SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pen Yantone Doodle Dandy (1942) (51049760) 8.05 Three Amigost (1985) (25236663) 8.00 Good Guya Wear Black (1979) (2392378) 10.00 Defencious (1981) (2291418) 11.50 Lees Then Zero (1987) (5301502) 1.30ms Nonferdix the Vempyre (1979) (900684) 3.10-5.19 Coptains Courageous (1937) (3701685) THE DISNEY CHANNEL

8.00mm Mouse Trade: (4924505) 6.25 Quack Anack (4903012) 6.59 Bonters (8817682) 7.15 Darksing Duck (2241514) 7.40 Alacidin (2204882) 8.00 Mighly Ducks (3008236) 8.30 Timon and Pumbas (3014012) 9.45 Play Alangi (524129) 10.15 Mupper Bables (1912578) 10.40 The Small One (7535788) 11.10 Mouse Trades (8961586) 11.40 Umbrella Tree Christmas (9128147) 1.20 Embrella Tree Christmas (9128147) 1.06 Goot Troep (82005079) 1.30 Alacidin (49450296) 1.55 Darksing Duck (94269215) 2.25 Bankars (38751079) 2.50 Michay's Prince and the Psuper (3146166) 3.20 Timon and Pumbas (9655302) 2.30 Good Troep (7745298) 3.55 Timon and Pumbas (1141215) 4.05 Gool Troep (5185227) 4.35 Bonters (2236368) 5.00 Alacidin (7485588) 45 El Troep and Bumbas (7785588) 6.00mm Mouse Tracks (4924505) 6.25 (1141215) 4.05 Gool Troop (5195227) 4.35 Borders (223658) 5.00 Alectin (745558) 5.25 Troop and Pambea (3778215) 5.35 Deriving Duck (455596) 6.00 Aleghty Ducks (5079) 5.30 Elessom (8401) 7.00 Almost Home (4019) 7.30 Cr Quen (83499) 8.15 Touched by an Angel (625060) 6.00 Home Improvement (12552) 9.30-70.00 Golden Gate (47963) Sity Movies Gold taless over at 10pts.

SKY SPORTS 1 6.30mm Sports Carrier (22128) 7.00 Racing News (54215) 7.30 Citchet: Zimbalowe v

Ergland — Live (1583470) 3.30pm Foot-ball: Superstar Couching — John Colline (9383) 4.00 Ten Pin Bowling (52286) 4.59 Sports Centre (283470) 6.00 Weeding (1876) 6.00 Sports Centre (2695) 6.30 Footbal: Superstar Coaching — Graham Le Saux (9147) 7.00 Cricket: Zimbalwa v England (508234) 10.90 Sports Centre (72853) 10.30 Football: Best of All Time — England XI (38147) 11.30 Grass Roots Rugby (55522) 12.00 Football: Futbol Mandiel (31638) 12.30em Sports Centre (84432) 1.00 Cricket: Zimbalwa v England (219722) 4.00 4.30 Sports Centre (15161) SKV SPORTS 3 SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Boxing, Best of All Time — Britain (43590741) 1.00pm Footbell (94210234) 3.00 Besch Volleybell (1091549) 4.00 NBA Bestrethell (41085147) 6.00 Max Our (83747825) 6.30 Grass Roots Rugby (83767505) 7.00 Sports Centre (41047012) 7.30 Footbel — Live (96505568) 10.00 Footbell: Futbol Munckel (73258465) 10.30 Beach Volleybell (8864031) 11.30-12.00 Sports Centre (9425525) EUROSPORT

7,30am Trethon(48418) 8.30 Alpine Ski 7.38am Trethlori(48418) 8.30 Alpine Si-ing(35050) 3.25 Metersport(95505) 11.00 Meterspoing (77165) 12.00 Cer Pacing (17708) 1.00pm Eurotun (48554) 1.30 Eurotun (97944) 2.00 Equestinanism (32505) 3.00 Denoing (68857) 4.00 Si-Jumping(70692) 5.00 Cross-Country Skirrig (6844) 6.00 Motors (13552) 7.00 Figure Sleating (68147) 9.00 Footbet (67470) 11.00 Equestrianism (59031) 12.00-12.90em Parschuting (28006) GRANADA PLUS

8.00em The Krypton Factor (5711215) 6.30 Ticke on the Turn (20389944) 6.45 1-23 Gol (62854517) 7.00 Alborts (728915) 7.15 Ticke on the Turn (6284627) 7.30 Grehemic Ark (7252585) 7.50 Jose Smith Graham's Ark (725259) 7.50 Jose Smith (5877470) 8.00 Classic Coronation Street (1983760) 8.20 The Mystern Fazor (1982031) 9.00 Families (1573983) 9.30 Crown Court Special (500586) 19.00 Park Figh (508802) 10.30 The Brothers McGregor (1502986) 11.00 Red Letter Days (1259831) 12.00 Crown Court (1593147) 12.00 Classic Coronation Street (1693147) 12.00 par Trouble in Mind (5004302) 1.00 Crown Court (125925) 1.30 Families (5005673) 2.00 White (16887031) 3.00 The Brothers McGregor (1673382) 3.30 Park High (1473586) 4.00 The Smeras (2123128) 5.00 Rod Letter Days (1697863) 6.00 Classic



Chris O'Donnell and Minnie Driver (Movie Channel 10,00pm)

Coronation Street (1482470) 6.30 Families (1496050) 7.00 The Occtor Series in Chargo C (1696992) 7.30 Trouble in Mind (1482234) 8.00 Tima for Murder (8412867) 9.00 Classic Coronation Street (2444477) 9.35 The Good Life Guide (2996944) 18.00-11.00 The Struers (8435706) From 11.00pm-2.00em Men and Motors GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00am-8.00 TV High Street. Includes consumor news and teatures and Your Stars presented by Russell Grant From 9.00-12.00 Food and Wine. In-cludes recepts and totals from Delta Smith From 12.00-3.00ps Health and Beestly. Includes Natural Health From 3,00-6,00 Home and Gerden, Includes The Good Life Shile Guide THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4,00pm Biography Charle Chaples (2970050) 5,00 Modern Marvels (1543079) 6,00 Cur Certsry 1958-1968, Nouvelle Vague (4016734) 7,00-8,00 Biography: Serticus and Dellah (6578437) THE SCI-FI CHANNEL Firms, features and classic sames every day from Room-Aarm Monday to Workstook and

1mm-4mm Thursday to Sunday on catalities, and from Same-4mm every day on catalia. Biopos Seven Scielberg's Amatring Stones (1520126) 8.30 The Twilight Zone (1520863) 9.00 FILLIR Dune (74157055) 11,50 Star Trek Special (5613708) 12,00 The francible Hulls (\$259581) 1.00 Fillies of the Unexpected (6184616) 2.00 New Although (3522845) 2.30 Red Seving Sectif Carlot (3522245) 2.30 Red Seving Sectif Carlot (3502245) 2.30 Red Seving Sevin reght Gatery (3014277) 3.00-4.00 Frids

TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00ms The Joy of Parting (4675166) 9.30 9.00ms The Joy of Parting (4575165) 9.20 The Grest Gardening PRJ (234505) 10.00 Go Frshing (8250573) 10.30 Hometime (4564050) 11.00 The Restoration Game (1347471) 12.00 Thereise (1347471) 12.00 Two's Country Cooking (455502) 12.30 pm Greiram Kerr (2945321) 1.00 Yer Can Cook (195399) 1.30 Home Agan, with Bob Vita (294599) 1.30 Furninge to Go (7505944) 2.30 Grey Your Greens (155679) 3.00 Rev Hurt's Fisting Adventices (7625079) 3.30-4.00 This Old House, with Sieve and Norm

4.00pm Rev Hurt's Falong Advertures (8147128) 4.30 Roadshow (8138012) 5.00

Time Travellers (7897296) 5.30 Terra X (8150622) 8.00 Wild Things. Untamod Abus (2527012) 7.00 Ned Siep (7800760) 7.30 Artin C Clarke's World of Strange Powers (8137741) 6.00 Armur C Clarke's Mystanous Universe (7805706) 8.30 Unexplained Chosthuriers is (7806215) 9.00 Unexplained Secrets of the Psychiat (1651653) 19.00 Warship (1664741) 11.00 Fields of Armur (1803876) 12.00 Classic Class Wheels (8183830) 1,00am The Extremests (5531635) 1,30-2,00 Special Forces (7991703)

UK GOLD

7.00mm Going for Gold (2657031) 7.35 Crossreads (2351470) 6.00 Neighbours 1930505) 6.35 EastEnders (2553944) 9.00 The 56 (4644256) 9.30 Eig Doal (827031) 10.30 The Subvers (4673708) 11.00 Julet Savo (1990741) 12.00 Crossneads (4562537) 12.25gm Neighbours (4562537) 12.25gm Neighbours (456253914) 12.56 EastEnders (1576741) 130 Roue (1953296) 2.10 A Liftle Bit of Dawson (28054708) 2.25 Up the Elephant 2rd Round the Castle (7693147) 3.00 Sale zid Round the Castle (7893147) 3,00 Sale of the Century (7827437) 3,30 The Bill (8160079) 4,00 Al Creatures Great and Snell 1379079) 5,00 EastEnders (6061321) 5,35 Crosconada (6990470) 6,00 George and Midded (8159083) 6,30 Seven of One (7243128) 7,05 Bob's Full House (5240760) 7,45 Every Second Counts (1929225; 8,25 On the Up (2661012) 9,00 The Equatory 11653012) 10,00 Taggan (91257760) 11,05 The Ball (5219925) 11,40 The Ball (5219925) 11,40 The Sest of Top of the Pops (4841215) 12.15am Mam Vice (3800109) 1.05 Brush

6.00am Swan's Crossing (4913499) 8.20 feetdown. Cybernet (4917215) 6.45 Hallway Across the Geleny and Turn Left (663928) 7.15 Ready or Not (31881) 7.45 Cellorial Dreams (763952) 8.15 Sweet Valley High (532147) 8.45 An Attack (5345147) 9.00 Trey TCC (6821876 9.20 Burn (8930174) 9.40 Johnson and Rose of Cockeshell Boy (4067447) 10.20 Prober the Frog (5322031) 10.40 Charte Chaik (421873) 11.00 Dredpacies (44942) 11.30 (4219673) 11,00 Denobables (44942) 11,30 (4218673) 11,00 Dinobebies (4992) 11.30 Jim Heiscort's Animel Show (94401) 12,00 Barnoy (31942) 12,30pm Where's Welly (30573) 1,00 Casper and Fnends (99554) 1,00 Tiny and Crew (94256470) 1,55 Johnson and Friends (4173730) 2,30 Buttle (94254670) 2,00 Buttle (94254670) 2,00 Highert (9310465) 3,00 Heiffledy Across the Gallery and Turn

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6.00mm Teenage Murant Hero Turtles (67876) 6.30 Biver Most from Mars 113470/ 7.00 Ceptam Smilan and the Space-Monkeys (52857) 7.30 Tales from the (70789) 8.30 Hey Amold (62760) 8.00 Rugnets (43296) 10.00 Real Monsters (37050) 10.30 Doug (58296) 11.00 Roctor's Modern Life (69586) 11.30 Pete and Pete (64215) 12.00 The Secret World of Alex-Mack (73676) 12.30 pm Ren and Surroy (60215) 12.00 The Secret World of Alon Mack (73978) 12.90pm Ren and Stripty (53037) 1.00 The Ferale (51129) 1.30 Space Caces (13578) 2.00 Carese Explains it Ali (9031) 2.90 Doug (5708) 3.00 Regi Monsters (8186) 3.30 Studeni Around (7865) 4.00 Bruno the Ket (9760) 4.30 Rugtats (5844) 8.00 Scrier Sester (9418) 6.00 Mocetta (6437) 6.30-7.00 Are You Atraid of the Oark? (7789)

PARAMOUNT

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(1124532)

UK LIVING 6.00mm Kitroy (1268963) 7.00 The Agony Expenence (1802709) 7.30 The Young and the Restless (3274585) 6.20 The Food and Drink Christmas Quiz (1153012) 8.55 Drink Christines Guzz (153012) 8.55 Turnstout (8465418) 8.45 Trivial Pursul (7552942) 10.00 Entertainment Novi (6427673) 10.05 The Jerry Springer Show (1928895) 11.00 The Young and the Rostless (1533586) 11.55 Strootsade

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FAMILY CHANNEL

5,00pm 90000018017,939 330 (1930000 Hurri (85654) 6.30 Catchphraze (1956) 7.00 The Pyremid Game (6963) 7.30 Hart to Hart (51419) 8,30 Only When J Laugh (1418) 9,00 Bergarce (15447) 10,00 Stay Lucky (23296) 11,00 Bagdad Cafe (9763) 11,30 FM (28960) 12,00 Lou Grant (76069) 1.00em Bergorac (41068) 2.00 Hert to Hart 184890) 3.00 Lou Grant (98180) 4.00 All Together Now (66819) 4.30-5.00 The Black Stalion (38451)

The 24 hour music channel, includes news, reviews, live concert footage, inferviews and the latest music video charts.

The video hits channel. Classic rock and populates and the best new sounds

ZEE TV 7.00em Jaagran 7.30 Life Style East 8.30
Postine Health Show 9.00 Bengeii Sestel
9.30 Abhinein 10.00 Tara 11.00 Menesi
11.30 Danie 12.00 Denes Mania 12.30em
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CARTOON NETWORK/THT Continuous cartoons from 5am to 9pm, then TNT films as below

A.00pm The Glass Slipper (1955) (41988505) 11.00 The VIPs (1963) (50431383) 1.00pm Passage to Marsellle (1944) (95702109) 2.55-5.00 The Glass

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NATIONAL STADIUM 41

Wembley wins on British sport's £200m payout

ICE HOCKEY 42

Why does Britain's Olympic bid have a Canadian flavour?



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18 1996

Zimbabwe buoyed by England's unimpressive form on eve of inaugural match

Atherton facing test of leadership

FROM SIMON WILDE IN BULAWAYO

MICHAEL ATHERTON sat in the evening sun yesterday, under the shamiana that will act as the players' pavilion at Queens Club during the inaugural Test match between England and Zimbabwe that starts here today. Perched on top of the terracing cut out of the turf at this picturesque. tree-lined ground, he looked like a potentate, which was an irony in view of the fact that he is facing one of the sternest tests of his three-year tenure as the England cricket

By leading his country for the 36th successive time today. Atherton will break the England Test record he shares with Peter May, but defeat by the newest and weakest Test nation in the world might jeopardise his chances of remaining in power long

TEAMS

rest, R.S. Dunne (New Zealand) and I.O. son (Zimbabwe)

enough to fulfil his ambition of having another crack at the Australians next summer.

He refused to accept that this match has more significance than any other Test, but acknowledged equally that it had special importance to the Zimbabwe players, who say they are keener to beat Eng-land than any other side. "That is the case the world over," Atherton said. "It is imperialism kicking us in the

Defeat by a country with such a small nucleus of players and with only one win in out of the question, but it no longer is. Losses in the past three weeks to a President's XI. Mashonaland and, in the . first one-day international against Zimbabwe, have changed that and altered the

morale of both camps. Of the team that Zimbabwe



David Lloyd, the England coach, watches as Ian Botham, who is assisting the bowlers, makes a point to the players during net practice at Queens Club yesterday

named yesterday, only Henry Olonga, the fastest bowler on either side, has not played a part in one of the touring side's defeats. Both camps also appear to accept that, given five fine days, there will be a result here.

Britain's imperialist past may have something to do with the fact that the Zimbabweans are so "up for it", but equally potent is the perception that this England team has displayed an arrofaced here.

The decision not to bring in a replacement for Dominic Cork, England's leading strike bowler, when he withdrew shortly before the tour began. hinted at complacency, and David Houghton, the Zimbabwe player-coach, has complained that England have not given enough credit to his bowlers when they have talked about their failure to make big scores. That said,

gant disregard for the task it relations between the sides are

England's problems are not small and they might do themselves a favour by acknowledging that their oppo-nents are a good side who are, in the words of Houghton, playing the best cricket we have played for many years".

One problem not taxing the England management greatly is the selection for the game. Having failed to replace Cork. having taken the decision at

an early stage of the tour that Russell, the wicketkeeper, would not feature in the Test side, and then having seen Irani break down, they are choosing from only 12 men, though the party will be supplemented by Craig White

next week. It was England's thinking yesterday that the last place in the side, that of third seamer, was a choice between Caddick and Silverwood, who has yet to play in a Test and has

appeared in only three limited-overs matches on this tour. If he does play, he will be the youngest England Test cricketer, at 21 years and nine months, since Mark Lathwell in 1993. By contrast, Zimbabwe's one newcomer is Andy Waller, 37, who has played 30,

one-day internationals. England are therefore set to play two spinners, Tufnell and Croft, an option not being pursued by Zimbabwe, who took the early decision yester-day to omit Andrew Whittall, the off spinner, from their original party of 12.

The square at Queens Club is reckoned to be the fastest and bounciest in the country. and though that may not be saying much, it should help the faster bowlers early in the day. Alistair Campbell, the Zimbabwe captain, expected to put England in if he won the

Were he to do so, it would be imperative that England survived the first hour in some sort of shape, rather than lose three wickets as they did twice during the defeat by Mashonaland. Atherton believes that, if they can do so and go on to build a total in excess of 400, they can then dictate the game. For that to happen, though, the top six must perform well, which probably means Atherton and

Mansell's rejection of Jordan flags end of the road

BY OLIVER HOLT

HE STOPPED short of saying that he had retired but Nigel Mansell effectively brought down the curtain on his illustrious Formula One career yesterday. After one last taste of life close to the edge at a test in Barcelona last week, he telephoned Eddie Jordan yesterday morning to turn down the opportunity to compete in a Jordan-Peugeot next season.

Mansell had come away from the Spanish test brimming with enthusiasm and delighted to be back in the limelight after 13 months away from the sport, apparently itching to make a come back. Ironically, it seems it may have been the influence of Bernie Ecclestone, the man who was put forward as one of the prime movers behind any return, that dissuaded him.

Mansell is believed to have met Ecclestone in London on Monday to discuss his op-tions. After the meeting his enthusiasm had waned considerably and he made Jordan yesterday. The Irish team may now turn its attention to Martin Brundle, the Italian, Giancarlo Fisichella, or the Frenchman, Jean-Christophe

Boullion.
"Nigel Mansell in a Williams could have made a ouisance of himself," Eccle-stone said, by way of an epitaph for the career of the 1992 world champion. "But in any other car, he would be really struggling." Mansell, 43, admitted in a statement that he could no longer devote the time necessary for a hectic season to Formula One given his other commitments.

The idea of the Barcelona test was originally to have some fun," he said, "but my natural competitive instinct took over very quickly and a return to Formula One with Jordan became a serious possultations with my family and business advisers. I quickly came to realise that my schedule would not permit me to give sufficient time to the Jordan team."

Eddie Jordan, though, still believes Mansell could win races. "He can still be a winner." Jordan said, "but I appreciate the honesty of his decision. The door will always be open for him at Jordan."

Races in doubt, page 41

THMES TWO

No 968

DOWN
1 To trick; trickery (with pocus) (S)
2 Mealtime etiquette (5.7)
3 Listen! (esp. to herald angels) (4)
4 Tie up (6)
5 Member of autocraoc ruling group (8)
6 Gossip (6-6)
7 Fishing boats; slaps (6)
12 Paolo —, artist; overseen

12 Paoko — artist; overseen (anag.) (8) 13 Handsome (6)

ACROSS
I Critical demolition (7,3)

- 8 Nightclub entertainment (7)
 9 Characteristic style (5)
 10 A canal: King of Gods (rev.)
- (4)

 11 Overfussy with details (8)
 13 Passing fashion; break into cracks (5)
 14 Salad, garnish plant (5) Welsh town; rebellious
 Duke, 1685 (8)
 Clownishly comical (4)
- 20 Big. generous (5) 21 To do with heredity (7)
- 1S Veteran (esp. actor) (6) 18 Pleasure craft (5) 22 A looking back (in time) (10)
- SOLUTION TO NO 967
 ACROSS: J Brandish 5 News 9 Signify 10 Hound 11 Bend 12 Hotline 14 Ulster 16 Squeal 19 Killjoy 21 Inch 24 Extra 25 Bromide 26 Dodo 27 Cerebral

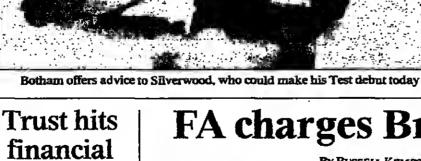
2 DOWN: I Busy 2 Angle 3 Dwindle 4 Scythe 6 Elusive 7 Suddenly 8 Shot 13 Bulkhead 15 Saluted 17 Quixote 18 Bye bye 20 Juan 22 Crier 23 Bell

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 963 In association with BRITISH MIDLAND

ACROSS: I Hapless 5 Lager 8 Leash 9 Hawkins 10 Conglomerate 12 Corona 14 Sleeve 17 Appassionata 21 Treadle 22 Oriel 23 Press 24 Tetanus DOWN: 1 Half-cock 2 Plain 3 Echelon 4 Scheme 5 Lower 6 Gristle 7 Risk 11 Defaults 13 Replete 15 Lookout 16 Ascent

18 Andes 19 Avian 20 Stop lst PRIZE of a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international network is B C Holdsworth, Halifax, West Yorkshire.

2nd PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND'S All flights subject to availability.



problems THE Football Trust is to turn to the FA Premier League and National Sports Council for help in funding work de-

manded at grounds by the Taylor Report after encoun-tering a financial crisis. The Trust has been forced to hold back money it had hoped to earmark for stadium work in the lower divisions of the Football League because of the dramatic effect on its

income caused by the National Lottery.

Money from the Trust's main sources - the weekly pools and spot-the-ball competitions — has fallen so sharply that it has only £15 million left to allocate for ground improvements until

the year 2000. Richard Faulkner, Trust vice-chairman, said: "II is very serious. We had originally anticipated receiving £200 million out of betting duty between 1990 and 2000 roughly £20 million a year -but we've had to revise that figure down to £165 million, of which £150 million has been

FA charges Bristol City

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

BRISTOL City, the Nationwide League second division club, has been charged by the Football Association with failing to control spectators during and after the derby match, which was shown live on there is no room for compla television, against Bristol Rovers at Ashton Gate on Sunday. City, who claim they did everything they could to avoid trouble and who will seek a personal hearing in an attempt to clear their name, have 14 days to respond to the

charge.
Trouble flared when Rovers equalised in injury time. sparking a mini-pitch invasion by celebrating Rovers supporters among the crowd of 18,674. Two hundred City supporters also left their seats, in another part of the ground. and ran towards their rivals.

Though stewards and mounted police managed to usher them back, further, more alarming, disturbances occurred after the game had eventually ended in a 1-1 draw. City supporters again spilled on to the pitch, from the same section of the ground, and a number of Rovers players had to beat a hasty retreat to the dressing-rooms to escape.

incidents we have had this year," Steve Double, an FA spokesman, said yesterday. We thought scenes like this had gone away, but, clearly,

cency in the fight against football hooliganism."

The FA's powers include censure ground closure or the loss of points. Brighton, the bottom club in the Nationwide third division, have had two

City moves afond Midweek View

points deducted this season after persistent crowd trouble. at the Goldstone Ground. Scott Davidson, the City

chairman, has already discussed ways of avoiding future problems during Bristol der-bies. They include the issuing of identity cards, the matches possibly being played behind closed doors and the banning of away fans.

Joe Jordan, the City manager, said: "It should have been a great day for the West Country, a day for showing everybody what good football there is in Bristol and in the second division. Instead, everything was overshadowed by what happened. It was disgraceful."
The FA has also asked to see a video of the mass brawl that broke out between players of Norwich City and Crystal Palace in the I-I first division

draw at Carrow Road on

Saturday, Kevin Muscat and

Ray Houghton, the Palace pair, were sent off after peace had been restored. Dave Bassett, the Palace manager, said he would take disciplinary action within the club if he deemed it necessary after reviewing the incident. The referee could have sent off 14 and abandoned the

game," he said. Derby County are again looking to Europe to strengthen their position in the FA Carling Premiership. Jim Smith, the Derby manager, has already recruited two Croatians and a Dane and now aims to bring a Swede to the Baseball Ground.

Derby hope to sign Marino Ramberg, a 23-year-old striker, on two months' loan from early January. The Degerfors IF forward is Sweden's young



Thorpe rediscovering their

moned yesterday to join the party after the hospital tests on

Irani's back on Monday re-

vealed a "hot spot" of inflam-

mation. Irani received an

injection that will prevent him

from bowling for three days,

but the management now

wants to monitor his progress

for at least a week before making a decision on whether

White is holidaying in Australia after the end of the

England A-team tour there

and will join the senior team

in Harare next Monday, three

days before the start of the

he should return home.

White was officially sum-



Drink this instead.



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